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OBSERVATIONS

MADE IN

A JOURNEY

THROUGH THE

WESTERN COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND;

IN THE AUTUMN OF M,DCC,XCII.

RELATING TO

THE SCENERY, ANTIQUITIES, CUSTOMS, MANNERS, POPULATION, AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, COMMERCE, POLITICAL CONDITION, AND LITERATURE OF THESE PARTS.

Sed neque Medorum ſylvæ, ditiſſima terra
Nec pulcher Ganges, atque auro turbidus Hermus,
Laudibus Italiæ certent.——
O fortunatos nimium, ſua ſi bona norint! VIRG.

BY ROBERT HERON.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOLUME SECOND.

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JOURNEY

THROUGH THE WESTERN PARTS

OF

SCOTLAND.

GLASGOW.

INTENDING to return to Edinburgh by the way of Glaſgow; I did not, upon this occaſion, ſpend much time in examining the curioſities of this opulent commercial city. I had, once before, paſſed a few days in Glaſgow. The kindneſs of friends had made me acquainted with many of thoſe things which were moſt remarkable about it. It was indeed greatly altered and enlarged ſince that period. But, it might be better, I ſuppoſed, to ſurvey its improvements upon my return.

ONE ſentiment which I felt upon finding myſelf again in a great town, was ſuch, that I cannot help mentioning it. At ſight of the ſpacious and buſy ſtreets, the frequent ſhops, the crowded market-places, the carefully dreſſed men and women, methought, I felt myſelf again at home. Here every

convenience of life might be eaſily obtained. I had lately travelled through regions which were deſtitute of many of the moſt grateful of thoſe conveniencies. Here, a perſon might have ſo much general ſociety, as to leave him little deſire for the *rare* pleaſures of frank, eaſy, unſuſpicious converſe, or for the *ideal* enjoyments of generous friendſhip and virtuous love. In the wild ſcenes which I had left, there was little to ſoothe the wounded ſpirit,—little to give a reliſh to life, after the once open and ſimple heart had experienced the perfidy, the ingratitude, the inhumanity of men. Here, there was enough to buſy the mind, and enough to keep deſire awake, and to expel care from the boſom, although not an eye ſhould meet you with a glance of kindneſs, and not a countenance ſhould ſeem to ſay, 'This is the face of a well-wiſher.'

Such were the reflections, partly melancholy, and partly pleaſing, which aroſe in my mind, as I retired to reſt on the evening on which I had reached Glaſgow. The neceſſary tranſaction of ſome buſineſs detained me here, all the following day. On the Tueſday, I left Glaſgow, and continued my excurſion towards Hamilton: my purpoſe being, to viſit Galloway, and to return to Glaſgow through Ayr-ſhire.

From

From GLASGOW *to* LISMAHAGOW.

IT was towards the afternoon when I left Glaſgow. Here, too, as when I had entered this city, on a different quarter, I obſerved the town to decline gradually into the country,—not to be divided from it by an abrupt line. The roads are excellent. They were crowded with paſſengers on foot and horſe-back, and with carriages of various deſcriptions. The wetneſs of the ſeaſon had indeed rendered them deep: but this was not ſo much the fault of the roads, as of the ſeaſon. From the road, as I proceeded, I ſaw one of the moſt picturesque tracts of level country I had ever ſurveyed. A good many decent, with ſome ſplendid gentlemen's houſes are ſcattered over it. The ſurface of the ground is, in many places ornamented with belts and clumps of planting; and even with larger, and more regular tracts of wood. Coal-pits and quarries of limeſtone, with ſmoking lime-kilns are to be ſeen, here and there, over the country. The fields were not yet cleared of their corn, but it ſtood at leaſt almoſt every where in the ſhock; and while its appearance in that condition, at ſo late a period in the ſeaſon might indeed awaken a train of unpleaſing reflections,—it however gave the ſcenes a richer and leſs

bare aſpect than they muſt otherwiſe have exhibited. Hedges divided the fields. The level of the country was ſufficiently varied by ſwelling knolls. Fancy naturally ſtrove to clothe it in the gayer colours of ſpring, of ſummer, and of opening autumn, and in the effort gave little leſs amuſement to the mind, than if I had been actually ſurveying the realities which ſhe attempted to picture out.

One remain of antiquity which I had an opportunity of remarking from the highway was Bothwell-Caſtle, the ruins of which have ſtill an air of majeſty to remind the beholder of its ancient ſtrength and grandeur. It is ſaid to be in the ſame ſtyle of building, as the old caſtles of Wales. Its walls were ſixty feet high: they are fifteen in thickneſs. It ſtands cloſe upon the bank of the Clyde, upon a rocky foundation. At one time, the maſſy wall cruſhed the rock; and large fragments of the wall and the rock fell down together into the Clyde. Oppoſite to Bothwell-Caſtle, upon the other ſide of the river, ſtand the ruinous remains of the Priory of Blantyre, the property of Lord Blantyre. This Priory appears from hiſtoric documents, to have been founded before the end of the thirteenth century. It was dependent upon the monaſtery of Jedburgh. Upon the abolition of the Romiſh Religion in Scotland in the ſixteenth century, it fell into the hands of a Walter Stuart,

Stuart, Lord Privy Seal; who was in the beginning of the following century created Lord Blantyre.

THE ſoil of this tract of country is rich and fertile: commonly, a clay, or a loam; in ſome places moſſy. In this vicinity are a ſulphureous, mineral ſpring or two. At ſome diſtance, on the banks of Calder-Water, are great quantities of iron-ſtone rich in metal, which are dug, and, at a furnace near Glaſgow, wrought into pig-iron: the proprietors of the land receiving for the iron-ſtone at the rate of ſixpence a ton. Thoſe iron-ſtones are ſaid to exhibit, many of them, impreſſions which ſeem to have been made by leaves, trunks, or branches of various trees.

BOTHWELL-CASTLE is well known to have been a ſeat of the ancient Douglaſſes, in their days of feudal ſplendour. Strong as it was, they truſted not entirely to its ſtrength for their ſecurity. Between Bothwell-Caſtle and the Priory of Blantyre, there was a ſecret ſubterraneous paſſage, running under the bed of the Clyde. By this the inhabitants of the caſtle, at leaſt the tenderer part of them, could retire in time of danger to the protection which the ſanctity of a religious eſtabliſhment afforded, in thoſe days of barbariſm and ſuperſtition. A handſome, large, new houſe has been built,

at

at a ſmall diſtance, by the preſent Lord Douglas, in a ſituation, commanding a view of the river and of the ancient caſtle.

In this neighbourhood, the river Avon which has its ſources in the pariſhes of Avondale and Galſton, meets the Clyde. The meeting of the two rivers, and the ſurrounding ſcenery have been finely celebrated by Miſs Hannah Williams, in a ſweet little ode, inſerted in her novel of Julia.

This is truly a fine tract of country. The near neighbourhood of a city ſo large, ſo populous, ſo buſy, and ſo flouriſhing as Glaſgow, the natural fertility of the ſoil, the abundance of uſeful foſſils, and the ſpreading ſpirit of manufacture, are circumſtances all conſpiring to promote the population, the induſtry, and the wealth of theſe places.

We paſſed by Bothwell-bridge, where was fought, in the laſt century, a ſtraggling battle, between the Covenanters and the King's troops. The event of the battle is well known to have been ruinous to the affairs of the former. Thoſe who fell, were by their brethren, accounted martyrs. The ſame bridge celebrated in the ſtory of that battle, ſtill ſtands. The Clyde is not here navigable. But, when ſwelled by rains, this river, as well as the Avon, ſpreads

a vaſt body of water over its banks. In the month of March, 1782, the Clyde roſe ſixteen feet above its ordinary level; overflowing a great tract of the adjacent country, and aſſuming the magnificent aſpect of an arm of the ſea.

We were now within the pariſh of Hamilton, and drew near to the town of the ſame name. The Avon, the Clyde, and ſeveral ſtreams divide, water, and fertilize this diſtrict. The level of the ſurface is finely diverſified. The banks of the ſtreams are often decorated with wood. Salmons, trouts, pikes, perches, roaches, lampreys, eels, and flounders abound more or leſs in the rivers. Fine black cattle are fed in the fields. Wheat, oats, peaſe, beans, and barley are the crops raiſed. Potatoes are here, as elſewhere through Scotland a favourite and plenteous article of culture, and of food. The paſtures have been improved, too, by the ſowing of graſſes richer and more nouriſhing than the native ſward.

The town of Hamilton is one of the handſomeſt of ſmaller towns in Scotland. It contains about three thouſand and ſix hundred inhabitants. Of theſe about four hundred may be weavers. Cabinet and carpenter work of various ſorts is made here. The tanners are conſiderable; and dreſſed leather is carried

carried from Hamilton to the London market; the raw hides being firſt purchaſed from Glaſgow and from Ireland. No fewer than an hundred and twenty hands are employed in the manufacture of ſhoes. The manufacture of ſtockings on frames, gives employment to four and twenty hands. A manufacture of thread-lace has been long carried on here. Through the fluctuations of faſhion, it had gradually declined. But, the late Dutcheſs of Hamilton and Argyle turned her attention to the encouragement of this manufacture; brought up to it at her own expence, twelve orphan girls; and patronized the uſe of the lace, ſo as to revive, in a great degree, that ſpirit with which it had been formerly made here. It is again declining. The chief employment, however of the women of Hamilton and its environs, has long been the ſpinning of linen yarn. Large parcels of this yarn were formerly exported from Hamilton to Ireland: but the Iriſh have ſince learned to ſpin for their own manufactures. *Hamilton* races are well known to be among the beſt frequented of our animal races. In conſequence it may be, that the manufacture of ſaddlery goods has come to be carried on, to ſome extent here. Linen was formerly the only ſpecies of cloth produced by the weavers of Hamilton. They are now chiefly employed by the manufacturers of Glaſgow, in working cotton ſtuffs.

THE houſes of this town have a remarkable air of neatneſs. I have mentioned the women of Dumbarton as having appeared, in my eyes, remarkably homely. I ſhall add here, that the women of Hamilton ſeemed no leſs remarkable for fine faces, handſome figures, and neatneſs of dreſs. They were of the middle ſize; the out line of the face, a fine oval; the eyes commonly blue; the hair, fair, or a light brown; the noſe inclining to aquiline, yet not abſolutely ſo; and their dreſs had a neatneſs and cleanlineſs, more pleaſing than finery. It was not ſimply one or two of the young women of this place, that appeared thus charming. Almoſt at every door, I obſerved one of theſe captivating female forms at work, as I paſſed haſtily through the town.

HERE is a good inn, well kept by a Mr Clarke from London. He is an obliging, intelligent man, but has not a little of the air of a groom, a boxer, or a cock-fighter. As a burgh of Regality, Hamilton poſſeſſes a priſon and a town-houſe. It has alſo commodious buildings for market-places. The pariſh-church is an handſome building. An inſcription over the gateway of an old houſe ſtill ſtanding in the town beſpeaks the date of its erection to have been in the year 1533. *Hamilton*-houſe, the ſeat of the Duke of Hamilton ſtands near the town. The

parts of this edifice have been erected at different periods. That which is moſt ancient, appears to have been finiſhed in the year 1591. The more modern and moſt conſiderable part was built in the end of the laſt century. It was formerly ſurrounded by the town. But, its noble poſſeſſors have by degrees pulled down ſuch of the houſes of the town as ſtood neareſt to the palace, and have given ſuch a direction to the plan of ſuch others as have been ſince built, that the palace is now left detached from the town. The buildings of the palace form three ſides of a quadrangle. Several of the rooms are ſpacious; but they are not all alike well furniſhed. Of the paintings, that of Daniel in the Den of Lions has been highly praiſed by Connoiſſeurs. In the middle of the great park, about a mile from the town, and on a rock, overhanging the weſt bank of the river Avon, ſtand the ruinous remains of Cadzow-caſtle, the ancient manor-houſe. Cadzow ſeems to have been anciently the name of the whole circumjacent diſtrict. Oppoſite to theſe ruins, and on the other ſide of the river Avon, is an artificial ruin, which was built about the year 1730, after a deſign drawn by the elder Adams, and intended for an imitation of the caſtle of Chatelherault, in France, the name of which it bears. In the park, near theſe ruins, are ſome of the ſtateliеſt oaks in Scotland. Within the preſent century, the number of theſe noble trees

trees has been greatly diminiſhed: ſome having fallen, through the decay of age. Of thoſe which yet remain, many are now only mutilated trunks, diveſted through the ſame decay, of the ſpacious, ſpreading boughs which once ſhaded them. Some ſtill meaſure, in girth, upwards of 27 feet. Here, ſo late as the year 1770 were a remnant of thoſe white cattle with black or brown ears and muzzles which were once common in Scotland. Their ſhyneſs and ferocity of temper rendered them troubleſome and little uſeful. They were therefore exterminated in the year above mentioned. The Duke of Hamilton has here a park well ſtocked with fallow deer.

From Hamilton we continued our journey towards Liſmahagow. The highway was ſtill excellent. Turnpikes have been erected at proper diſtances; and this road is kept up by the contributions of thoſe who have occaſion to travel it. Near Hamilton, the country was incloſed chiefly, and the fields in a ſtate of cultivation. As we advanced, however, ſome wide, level tracts, as well of brown heath, as of open, neglected green paſture appeared on either hand. Night came on. But, the ſky was ſerene: And as the road was good and the country inhabited, the ſhort ride we had yet to take by night, was little leſs pleaſing, than

it might have been by day; had it not been that the circumjacent country was in a great meaſure hid from our view. As we drew nearer and nearer to Liſmahagow, the houſes by the way-ſide, ſeemed to exhibit an aſpect more and more miſerable. And for the laſt three miles, the country appeared to be entirely uninclоſed.

Lismahagow, and to Weston.

AT Liſmahagow, I was entertained by the hoſpitality of Dr Wharry. Liſmahagow is a village of great antiquity. Here was anciently an abbey of monks, dependent on the abbey of Kelſo. The ſituation of the village is an excellent proof of the judgment with which the Romiſh Clergy uſed to chuſe out ſituations for their religious houſes. It ſtands in a pleaſant vale, on the bank of a fine ſtream, and is, on all hands well ſheltered. The ground, too, is here of ſingular fertility. And when one reflects on the open, uncultivated condition of the country, ſome hundred years ſince; it is plain that the good monks could hardly have been then placed in a ſite more pleaſant, more fitted to afford the conveniencies of life, or more ſecure. The pariſh of Liſmahagow, is ſtill a collegiate charge. And I believe, the firſt miniſter enjoys one of the beſt

beſt country livings in the church of Scotland. The ancient church ſtill ſtands. But, I did not obſerve many other monuments of antiquity remaining here. Mr Wharry's houſe, at which I was entertained, ſtands on an eminence, at a ſmall diſtance above the village. Hence I had a fine view of the village, of the vale winding above it, and of the country ſpreading out, beneath, where the country ſwells partly into hills riſing ſlowly, and to no very lofty elevation, and in part ſpreads out into a plain ſuſceptible of cultivation. Within this landſcape, alſo, ſtands the houſe of Auchtafardale, the ſeat of a Mr Moſſman.

From Mr Wharry's ſon, I received a preſent of ſome curious petrifactions which he had collected from a lime-quarry. Among theſe were the petrified vertebræ of ſome animal, the ſpecific character of which I could not gueſs at, by ſo ſlight a remain; the two valves of a ſmall cockle-ſhell, ſtill cloſe and united; a ſingle valve of another cockle-ſhell; with ſome petrified teeth; and various other petrified animal remains. Such ſpecimens as theſe were, in the infancy of natural hiſtory, ſuppoſed to have been formed by an actual converſion of the ſubſtance of the animal or bodies—which they reſembled,—into ſtone. It came afterwards to be known, that no ſuch unaccountable and extraordinary converſions

of

of one ſubſtance into another, entered into the œconomy of nature. Ingenuity conjectured, and obſervation confirmed the conjecture, that ſuch curiouſly modified, lapideous bodies, muſt have been formed by the gradual decompoſition of the animal or vegetable bodies in whoſe mould they were caſt, and the depoſition of ſtony particles in the ſpaces which thoſe animal or vegetable bodies had occupied. The famous Lough Neagh in Ireland, by this depoſition of ſtony particles ſuſpended in its waters, gives, within a certain time, a ſtone of the preciſe form and dimenſions of any piece of wood that may be laid to putrify in it. Calcareous ſtones are known to derive their origin from the decompoſition of certain animal ſubſtances, juſt as ſome other foſſils are formed by the decompoſition of vegetable bodies. It is eaſy to conceive, then, that, in the gradual depoſition of ſtrata of calcareous matter from the ſuſpenſion of their particles in water, animal ſubſtances not yet diſſolved might be immerſed in the forming ſtrata of calcareous matter: In this ſituation they might be diſſolved, by degrees: But, as they were diſſolved, the mould which they had occupied, would be, naturally, filled up with thoſe looſe calcareous particles which were diffuſed around them. Such are my notions of thoſe petrifactions which we find eſpecially in lime-

quarries

quarries; and ſuch, I believe, is the generally received theory.

NEXT morning, I took leave of my hoſpitable entertainer, Mr Wharry, and proceeded onwards towards the ſources of the Clyde.—At no great diſtance from Liſmahagow, are thoſe famous cataracts of the Clyde,—the *Linns* of *Corra* and *Stonebyres*. At Corra *Lynn*, the ſtream is precipitated over a rock, down a perpendicular height of an hundred feet. On a pointed rock, juſt oppoſite to where the water begins to fall down the ſteep, ſtand the ruins of a caſtle which about fifty years ſince, or perhaps ſomewhat more, was inhabited. When the torrent was ſwollen by floods, it would daſh down with ſuch violence as to ſhake the rock and the caſtle upon it, ſo that water in a glaſs was ſpilled by the concuſſion. Juſt under this awful cataract ſtands a miln, the wheel of which ſeems as if it were, every moment about to be daſhed in pieces, by the weight of water which falls upon it.

A MILE farther up the river is the cataract of Stone-byres, perhaps ſtill more ſtrikingly magnificent than that of Corra. The walk between the two is beautifully romantic. The rocks riſe on each ſide, to the height of an hundred feet above the bed of the river. They are covered with wood. The channel

channel is of ſolid rock, ſometimes worn into cavities by the force of the water; which is compelled by a variety of obſtacles to aſſume varied directions in its progreſs: and forming a number of inferior caſcades. Although at Stone-byres *Linn* the water falls from an elevation greatly inferior to that at Corra, yet the width being here broader, the maſs more diverſified, the eddies more turbulent and outrageous; this cataract is perhaps formed to impreſs the imagination with ſtill deeper awe and horrour than the former. At a mile's diſtance from theſe ſcenes of grandeur, and while the water-falls are ſtill hid within the emboſoming woods, a thick ſmoke-like miſt is ſeen to riſe over it; and nearly the hollow noiſe is heard, which ſtuns the ears.

Round Lanark, the country is, in a conſiderable degree, ornamented and cultivated. A part of the town-common which has been lately alienated, is likely to receive great improvement, in conſequence of the alienation. A Cotton-work has been lately erected here by that eminent manufacturer, Mr David Dale of Glaſgow. I have been informed, that a greater quantity of cotton-yarn is ſpun here in the week, than at all the other ſimilar works for the ſpinning of cotton, that have yet been erected in Scotland.

Sensible,

SENSIBLE, that, by travelling ſtraight along the highway, I ſhould be enabled to form but a very imperfect notion of the ſtate of the country; I availed myſelf of a croſs road at no great diſtance from Liſmahagow, and by that wandered over the hills, towards Weſton. Where a much frequented highway paſſes through any country, the houſes by the way-ſide are commonly neater, and the fields better incloſed, and more carefully decorated, than in the interior parts, which are more remote from the obſervation of ſtrangers. This is in part the effect of the advantages which a road opening up a country gives, to promote the induſtry and by conſequence the wealth of its inhabitants;--and partly ariſes from the pride which the gentlemen of a country very properly and reaſonably take in ſhewing its beſt face to ſtrangers, and in hiding the nakedneſs of their land. Not maliciouſly to ſpy the nakedneſs of this diſtrict, but to enjoy its diverſified ſcenery, and to remark its real condition, did I turn from the highway.

THE day was fair; and the reapers were every where buſy in the fields. The corn was nearly all cut down; but conſiderable quantities ſtood in the ſhock; and, as appeared to me, in no very dry ſtate: and that which was yet growing, did not ſeem to be fully ripe. I accoſted the reapers, as I

paſſed various parties, and chearfully called to them to *be buſy, and win the corn*, aſſoon as poſſible. They always replied with that civility and good-nature for which the peaſantry of Scotland are every where remarkable. They indeed ſeemed to labour with all that activity and earneſtneſs which the lateneſs of the harveſt, and the extreme uncertainty of the weather required. The fields appeared to me, to be awkwardly divided, and ill-fenced. The arable ground lay immediately around the different farm-houſes. Beyond, was, in every farm, ſeemingly, a wide tract of open muir, appropriated to the purpoſes of paſture for ſheep and black-cattle.

Travelling thus acroſs the country, I paſſed near by one farm-houſe, in the pariſh of Liſmahagow, the name of which I learned to be the Moat. It ſtands in a hollow. Immediately around is a tract of *bog* forming almoſt one continued quagmire. The *ſteading* of the farm-houſe with the offices, is on a mount in the midſt of this quagmire. As I approached the door of the houſe, to aſk the way onwards, I obſerved the walls of the office-houſes, to be ancient, ſtrong, and well-built, as well as of conſiderable extent. Upon a more minute ſurvey, I perceived plainly, that they were the remains of ſome conſiderable old caſtle, or at leaſt houſe built in the caſtellated faſhion. The farmer, who

who was an obliging and intelligent man, could give me no information concerning the antiquity of theſe remains, or the time at which the caſtle had been deſerted for the lowly farm-houſe beſide it; and its halls converted into ſtalls for horſes and oxen. It ſhould ſeem that the mount on which theſe remains ſtand, has been once inſulated, either naturally or artificially. The marſhy ground around it has been once a natural or artificial lake, or at leaſt a moat. But, the ſtate of the country being changed; our houſes affording us the ſecurity of caſtles, without the precautions of fortification; the ſame lowneſs, or the ſame inacceſſibility of ſituation being no longer preferred among us, for our houſes, the MOAT has been deſerted by its original inhabitants, and from being perhaps the dwelling of the Lord of the Manor, has fallen to be the humble habitation of a farmer.

IN Italy, in Greece, and in thoſe countries in Africa and Aſia, which were anciently famous for population and opulence, the traveller frequently meets with ſomething ſimilar to what I found here. He finds the nobleſt monuments of antiquity converted to the baſeſt purpoſes; hovels erected within the diſmantled walls of palaces; the pillars wrought by the moſt exquiſite care of ancient art, confounded with the meaneſt materials in the ſtructure of

ſome wretched edifice, ſcarce fit for a human habitation; and the trophies of the conquerors profaned by the hands of ſlaves. But, ſuch objects ſuggeſt reflections much more melancholy than are inſpired by any medleys of ancient grandeur and modern meanneſs which our own country may exhibit. *Thoſe* mark the decline of civilization, and teach the mind, that man and all his works, in all their perfection, are fluctuating and tranſient; that not only does barbariſm yield to the progreſs of civilization and refinement, but returns often to triumph over theſe, and ſweep them away, after they have attained the moſt ſplendid heights. But, when in Britain we ſee the deſolate ruins of ſome ancient caſtle, or behold the remaining monuments of that ſyſtem of life which prevailed among our fore-fathers, converted to meaner purpoſes than thoſe to which they once ſerved:—We cannot avoid reflecting on the progreſs which civilization and ſocial happineſs have made among us, ſince the days when —moats and caſtles, for inſtance, were neceſſary to the ſecurity of families. Happy indeed is the change which has removed the habitations of our men of fortune from the iſlet and the mount to the open lawn,—which has filled up our moats, and broken down our drawbridges,—which has diminiſhed the thickneſs of our walls, and enlarged the number, and the dimenſions of our windows,—which has

transferred

transferred ornamental architecture from the priory and the cathedral, to the villa of the merchant and the ſplendid manſion of the great land-holder!

As I rode on, I paſſed acroſs a wide tract of muir, diſtinguiſhed by the name of *Broken-Croſs Muir*. The origin of the name I could not learn. The extent and level of this tract are ſuch as might well fit it for a ſcene of battle. Although now bare, and brown over with heath; it ſeems to have been once occupied by a foreſt. On one ſide, it has been opened and cut down, for a good way, for peats. I rode near to the *peat-breaſt*, and could obſerve, by the pieces of wood which were ſcattered thick through the black, peat-earth, that the latter muſt undoubtedly have owed its formation to the decay of reſinous trees. This muir has been once a pine foreſt. It has been ſuffered to decay, unheeded, by the injuries of time, when our anceſtors were alike unqualified to avail themſelves of the various advantages which abundance of wood afforded, or to turn to ſerve the purpoſes of agriculture, after the wood had decayed or had been carried away, thoſe tracts over which foreſts had originally extended.

VARIOUS fooliſh enquiries have been ſuggeſted concerning the origin of peat-earth, or *moſs*, as it is commonly called. I have heard people aſk, whether

ther peat-earth did not grow like a vegetable? Only ſimplicity and careleſs obſervation could leave it poſſible for any perſon to aſk this queſtion. The origin of peat-earth appears evidently to be from ligneous vegetables, of various kinds, chiefly of a reſinous character; and not refuſing an intermixture of the earth formed by the decay of herbaceous vegetables; but rejecting, as unſuſceptible of combuſtion all alloy of pure earth, of whatever ſpecific character. Beds of peat-earth grow, as they are augmented by the decay of one generation of ligneous vegetables after another. Of any other growth, they are abſolutely incapable. In almoſt all extenſive ſtrata of moſs, we find trunks of trees, ſometimes freſh, and ſometimes ſo far decayed, as to crumble into duſt between the fingers. In many places, the trunks of the trees lie ſo thick and are ſo vaſt in their ſize, as to beſpeak evidently, that they once formed ſtately foreſts in the ſame ſituations. As in limeſtone, the forms of animal bodies are often diſtinctly diſcernible: ſo, in a dried peat, or on the face of a ſtratum of peat-earth, we may obſerve frequently the remains of ligneous vegetables. It is remarkable that periſhable bodies of all kinds, whether animal or vegetable, are wonderfully preſerved, if depoſited deep in a bed of this earth. There is ſomething in its nature, and ſomething in the nature of the juices with which it impregnates

water

water penetrating through it, that counteracts putrefaction with ſingular energy. Human bodies have been found in peat-moſſes in a ſtate of as perfect preſervation, as if embalmed by the art of the ancient Egyptians. Moſt probably the wood found in ſtrata of peat-earth, would have been reduced to duſt, had it been depoſited in any other ſituation. The reſin of the wood from which this earth is chiefly formed, may be, in part, what gives it this preſerving quality. A mixture of other juices, ſuch as that of the barks uſed in tanning leather, may farther co-operate to the ſame effect.—

CONTINUING my route, by a very indifferent pariſh-road over this moor; I paſſed near by a farm-houſe, the name of which has now eſcaped me; but I can ſtill recollect, that the apparent antiquity of ſome trees which grew around it, and the accumulation of the earth about the houſe and the garden convinced me, that it had been very anciently inhabited. When the earth round any cottage or farm-houſe is raiſed conſiderably above the general level of the ground on which it ſtands, no ſurer proof is neceſſary of its having been long the habitation of human beings. Through the Weſt Highlands, every cottage was bare of trees; and even more conſiderable manſions were ſheltered only by ſhrubs, or trees of very youthful growth.

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The earth was not raiſed about the cottages or farm-houſes in theſe regions. They ſeemed, every where, to be of no very ancient erection.

From the farm-houſe the aſpect of which ſuggeſted theſe conjectures, I proceeded down the ſloping ſide of the hill, to *Douglas-water*. Croſſing it by a ford, I rode on through corn-fields and excellent paſture-grounds; being ſtill conducted by the road, to a coalliery at a place called *Ponfeagh Burn-foot*. The workmen were buſy: abundance of coals lay around the pits: near them ſtood a row of huts, the habitations of the colliers. Paſſing cloſe by the doors of thoſe huts, I had an opportunity of holding ſome converſation with one of the colliers' wives, who ſtood at her door, with her ſick child, in her arms. Among other enquiries, I aſked whether the child had received the ſmall-pox, the diſeaſe of which he was ill, by inoculation.—He had not. Nor has the practice of inoculation been yet eſtabliſhed in this neighbourhood. The good woman would have thought herſelf ſhockingly criminal, had ſhe intentionally communicated to her child, the infection of diſeaſe.

The natural riches of this tract of country ſeem to be great. But, induſtry has yet done comparatively little, taſte hardly any thing for it. The fields

fields are not regularly divided. The fences are paltry walls of dry ſtone which a hog might almoſt overleap, a lamb almoſt break down. Planting ſeems not to be thought of, except immediately around the houſes of gentlemen. The agriculture ſeems to be irregular and imperfect. A very little care, and that directed by no extraordinary intelligence might, in ſuch natural circumſtances improve to all deſireable perfection of imperfection. I have reaſon to believe that Lord Douglas, the landlord of the greater part of this country is ſufficiently deſirous to promote ſuch improvement. The haſte with which I paſſed through this country rendered it impoſſible for me to have the honour of waiting on Lord Douglas. But, I have heard his farmers mention him in ſuch terms as to convince me, that he ſees the neceſſity of preſerving the pre-eminence which, his family gained by warlike exploits, and by the generoſity of the military character;—by leading in thoſe arts of peace which though anciently contemptible, are now held in the higheſt eſtimation.—Indeed, to maintain their dignity of character, our Nobility in general, will now do well to enter into the ſpirit of the country, and turn their cares to its *improvement;* as their anceſtors did, in a ruder and more unſettled age, to its *defence.*—To be brave in war, and magnificently hoſpitable in time of peace—were formerly all the qualities

neceſſary to diſtinguiſh a nobleman. But, war is no longer the great buſineſs of life in Europe. The Nobleman ſhould never be unpractiſed in the arts of war, and never unſkilled in the policy of his country. But, to theſe accompliſhments, to add an acquaintance with the moſt dignified and important arts of peace, and an aſſiduity to promote them. Of all theſe, none is of equal dignity and utility, or falls equally within the province of the great land-holder, as agriculture. By promoting this, he may, at once enrich himſelf, and augment the ſtrength, the population, and the opulence of his country.—Let me add, that in the preſent time, there is an urgent neceſſity demanding all the great among us, thus to diſtinguiſh themſelves. The lower orders have begun to murmur at the ſight of their luxurious opulence. Their murmurs are indeed unreaſonable, but will be leſs ſo, if the great ſhall voluntarily do, in their ſphere, as much for the advancement of the common intereſts, as want urges the poor to do in their's.

CONTINUING my journey through Douglaſdale, I had a diſtant peep of Douglas-caſtle, and paſſed near a cottage, the name of which, the appearance of the ſoil about it, and ſeveral ancient trees ſcattered near, beſpoke it to be placed within the confines of an old foreſt. The name I neglected to

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note; but, I think, it was *Wood-houſe*. After this, I was directed by an obliging ſtranger to croſs over the broad ſummit of a lofty, but ſlowly riſing hill, to regain the highway. Of the elevation of this hill I received one convincing proof in the exceſſive cold which I felt on its ſummit. It was grey with new fallen ſnow; a ſhallow marſh extending over almoſt the whole of it, was here and there covered with thin ice; my fingers were benumbed, and my limbs chilled by the ſudden cold I was here expoſed to, more than I remembered them to have been, by any blaſt that I had ever before faced. To ſuperficial obſervation a marſh or baſon of water on the ſummit of a hill may ſeem a ſtrange phænomenon. Yet, it is a phænomenon which the traveller has often occaſion to remark. And a little reflection will eaſily enable us to account for it. Miſts and clouds are naturally attracted round the towering heads of mountains; the vapours raiſed from them are ſooneſt condenſed; From the loftieſt ſituations in every country do rivers always take their riſe; On the ſides and at baſes of hills are ſprings commonly ſituate. Theſe facts ſhew, that the mountains are the great reſervoirs of water, and the great agents, which, in oppoſition to the ſun's efficiency, attract it from the upper regions of the air to the boſom of the earth. In many inſtances, the form

and ſtructure of mountains is ſuch, that the water which they attract is ſpeedily conducted away to the regions lying below them. In others, however, this does not ſo readily happen. The ſituation, the exterior form, or the internal ſtructure of the mountain is ſuch as to retain *in equilibrio* ſome conſiderable portion of that water which the clouds, from time to time, depoſite in its boſom. Hence, as circumſtances vary, in ſome caſes, a ſmall lake or pond on the ſummit of a mountain; in others, a marſh; and in others ſprings, burſting up on the ſummit; or trickling through the chinks or ſeams of the rocky ſides.

As I deſcended down the oppoſite ſide of this hill, on one hand a tract, wild as the bleak hills of Argyleſhire, opened before me; on the other appeared green hills and cultivated vales. Turning to the highway, I met trains of lime-carts. Here and there, as I advanced, I obſerved quarries of limeſtone. Round the farm-houſes, where the ground was cut deep by the trampling of cattle, a great depth of fertile ſoil was exhibited. The crops of corn ſtanding partly in damp ſhocks in the field, and partly conveyed within the barn-yard, were of luxuriant growth. The aſpect of the fields was now and then diverſified by green plats of turnips; and the black cattle were much leſs like the lean kine of

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king Pharoah's dream than thoſe which I had lately obſerved. This was near to the village of Weſton, and low upon the banks of the Clyde, and of another ſmall river, or rather rivulet which here carries its tribute into the Clyde.

Proceeding along the ſide of this rivulet, at ſome ſmall diſtance from it, I obſerved in a ſituation where the adjacent plain ſeemed to ſink lower, and to ſpread its level extent wider,—two of thoſe large barrows which are among the moſt numerous monuments of antiquity that our country exhibits; and not only our country, but almoſt every region of the globe that is known to have been anciently inhabited. Theſe were finely rounded in their form: they retained a freſher verdure than the adjacent ſcenes.—A little farther, I found it neceſſary to aſk a labourer whom I ſaw buſy gathering his potatoes from the ground, to direct me on the way. Near the ſpot where he was buſy, I obſerved a heap of manure. By enquiring, I learned from him that it was a compoſt of lime, dung, earth, and green vegetables. I enquiring farther, concerning the ſpirit with which improvements in agriculture were purſued in this neighbourhood; he informed me, that the Lord Juſtice Clerk, who has here an eſtate, and a country-ſeat, ſet a good example of agricultural improvement, and warmly encouraged his tenants

to

to imitate the example; but that ſuch improvements were far from being generally ſo eagerly proſecuted through the country. I ſoon after reached the houſe of Mr Henderſon, the reſpectable clergyman of Weſton. I was entertained, for the evening, by his hoſpitality, and inſtructed by his converſation. As a member of the Church of Scotland, I am peculiarly pleaſed with every occaſion which leads me to reflect, how highly it is dignified and adorned by the abilities, and by the virtues of its clergy.

Weston—to Newton of Crawford.

THE aſpect of this country is indeed rather bare, yet not unpleaſing. The courſe of the river gives animation to the adjacent ſcenes. Its banks are naturally fertile, and preſent commonly either corn-fields, or rich meadows. The contiguous hills riſe with no abrupt precipitancy, but with gentle, waving declivities. Their ſummits and ſides are clothed with verdure. On the weſtern ſide of the river are ſome ſcenes of rich cultivation. The vale is of no wide extent. But, when it ſhall be farther improved by the labours of enlightened agriculture, and ornamented by the cares of ingenious taſte, it will undoubtedly preſent ſome of the moſt beautiful landſcapes in Britain. The harveſt is commonly late in this

this neighbourhood. When, however, the grounds ſhall be better ſheltered by new belts and clumps of trees; and when every field ſhall be carefully incloſed; the additional warmth thus ſecured, will undoubtedly promote the earlier ripening of the crops.

The vale of Stratclyde was indeed anciently poſſeſſed by a principality of Britons. But, whether their domains might extend ſo near to the ſources of the river, as over this vicinity I know not. This was certainly a part of the Roman province of Valentia. I ſhould ſuppoſe, that the Scots and Picts had hardly advanced thus far in their incroachments upon the Britons, when the Eaſt-Angles, founding the ancient kingdom of Northumbria, extended their dominion into Galloway and Ayrſhire. Of the names of places in this diſtrict, a greater part are Saxon, than are Gaelic, or Britiſh—*Weſton*, *Libberton*, *Roberton*, *Lammington* are names of pariſhes, and all evidently of Saxon origin. *Tintoc* and *Dungavel* are names of hills, and probably Britiſh. The dialect of this diſtrict is, I apprehend, ſtrongly Saxonic;—as that of Dumbartonſhire, of Renfrewſhire, and even of ſome part of Ayrſhire ſeems to be ſtrongly impregnated with the remains of that dialect of the Celtic which was ſpoken by the ancient Britons. Upon the whole, therefore, I ſhould ſuppoſe, that the earlieſt inhabitants of this tract of country may have been Belgic

gic Britons,—that theſe after loſing the protection of the Romans, fell under the dominion of the Northumbrian Saxons,—and that the peaſantry of theſe parts, as the peaſantry are always the moſt permanent portion of the inhabitants of every country, have ever ſince been a mixture of Saxons and Britons, whom time has, inſenſibly incorporated into one body.

Leaving the manſe of Weſton, and its worthy poſſeſſor, after an evening's enjoyment of his hoſpitality, and agreeable converſation; I continued my journey along the upper ſkirt of the Lord Juſtice Clerk's plantations, and upon the weſtern ſide of the fine hill of *Dungavel*, towards the Bridge over the Clyde, a few miles diſtant. Among other places which we had occaſion to paſs, was the village of Roberton. Near it ſtands the ruinous church of the Pariſh of Roberton. This church has been ſuffered to fall into ruins, ſince the Pariſh was united with that of Weſton. Every where as I proceeded up this vale, I could diſcover by certain marks, that it had been anciently a ſcene of agricultural induſtry, and a ſeat of no inconſiderable population. The houſes were only cottages. But, in many inſtances, the walls of thoſe cottages ſeemed of very ancient erection. The *ſteading* of the cottage, and its little patch of kitchen-garden was always raiſed conſiderably

conſiderably above the level of the ground lying around; The garden always planted with trees; Theſe commonly old and venerable; and ſometimes decaying through age. The cottages were more numerous, than that they could have been neceſſary for the accommodation of the inhabitants, when population was not multiplied by the reſources of agriculture. Approaching near the bridge above-mentioned, I ſaw, in the ruins of an old caſtle, a more permanent monument of the ancient ſtate of this country. The walls appeared not by their ſtructure, to be of the moſt remote antiquity. It is ſituate at the baſe of the eaſtern hill, where it ſinks abruptly into a ſtripe of low ground forming the bank of the Clyde. Enquiring its name, I was anſwered, that the *Moat* was the only name, the inhabitants of the neighbourhood were accuſtomed to give it. This name is Saxon. Its primitive meaning is underſtood to be *a court*. It has been eaſily transferred to ſignify, the place in which ſuch a court uſed to aſſemble. Hence all thoſe circular and apparently artificial mounts which are diſtinguiſhed by the name of *Moat*. There was alſo the *moat* of a caſtle;—the trench or *foſſe*, filled with water which cut it off from all communication, except by a draw-bridge, with the ſurrounding country. The relation between theſe two ſignifications of this word, is too diſtant and ſubtile for my perception.—But, I am inclined to

believe, that wherever any old building retains the name of *Moat*, it muſt have at firſt received it, as being either the cuſtomary ſeat of ſome court,—or, as erected in or near a ſituation, where a court had uſed to aſſemble. Whether the artificial, circular mounts, denominated *moats*, may have alſo burying-places, I can hardly preſume to decide. In form they ſo nearly reſemble the barrows which are known for the tombs of our remote anceſtors,—differing only in magnitude, as to render it highly probable, that in moſt caſes, they might be alſo burying-places, made of a larger ſtructure, to receive a greater number of dead bodies, or for ſome other reaſon which cannot now be known.

FROM the Moat, I was conducted forward to the bridge over the Clyde. I meant to proceed, by Elvan-foot towards Dumfries. But, having before travelled along the highway which leads from Clyde-Bridge to Elvan-foot, on the north-weſtern ſide of the river, I now choſe rather to croſs the Clyde by the bridge, and continue my journey upon its ſouthern bank.

ABOUT eight miles, north-weſt from Clyde bridge, in a ſituation eſteemed one of the higheſt in Scotland, ſtand the villages of Leadhills and Wanlockhead, inhabited by miners. Theſe mountains had been

been long believed to contain rich mineral treasures in their bosom. Some small quantities of gold had been found on the muirs of Crawford; and stones, which national prejudice, and unskilfulness in mineralogy, reckoned precious, were found on them. At length, veins of lead were discovered and opened up. They were found to be numerous, extensive, and rich in ore. They were wrought with the best success. Lead ore commonly affords an intermixture of silver. That dug from these mines yields silver in a liberal proportion. The processes of refining the ore, and of separating the dross and the silver, were not all originally performed. After being purified to a certain degree, the lead was sent to Holland, to be finally prepared for use by the ingenuity of the Dutch. Practice has, by degrees, taught our Scotch miners greater skill. Yet, I am not sure, whether, at Leadhills and Wanlockhead, the lead ore drawn from the adjoining mines be yet finally prepared for use.

As these mines have continued to be wrought, new veins have been from time to time, discovered. The concourse of miners has, by degrees, formed two not inconsiderable villages, in a situation, one would be apt to think, by the exterior aspect of the country, least of all, likely to become the seat of any tolerably numerous population. Bleak, wild,

and lofty as the country is, and notwithſtanding the auſterity of the climate, theſe villagers have naturally been obliged to form little kitchen-gardens, and to cover ſmall patches of the adjacent ground with corn and potatoes. Every tender vegetable has here, indeed, a dwarfiſh, ſtunted aſpect; Yet ſo much has been already done to ſubdue the ſtubbornneſs, to ſoften the ruggedneſs, and to fertilize the ſterility of nature; that I can eaſily ſuppoſe it poſſible for cultivation to eſtabliſh her empire even in theſe wilds.

Nil mortalibus arduum eſt.

The labour of the miners is ſevere and unremitting. Through night and day, it is continued; one claſs relieving another, by turns of eight hours each. The company who are proprietors or tackſmen of theſe mines have adopted a very judicious arrangement, for the payment of the wages of the labouring miners. They ſupply their families with meal at a certain rate; deducing from the annual wages of each miner, the price of the meal with which his family is furniſhed. What yet remains to be paid in money, is not advanced weekly, but at the end of each quarter, or half-year. Only within theſe few years has this mode of paying the miners been here adopted. They were formerly paid by the week or the fortnight, and left to find all neceſſa-

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ries for themſelves. Then, however, they were diſſipated, improvident, and continually in want, although receiving high wages. To form them to habits of better œconomy; and to render their circumſtances eaſier, was this method of providing for, and of paying them adopted by their maſters. It has produced very beneficial effects.—It were well, if manufacturers, and people in general who have occaſion to employ many labourers, could be perſuaded to follow the example. Thoſe labourers, if paid only once a month, or at the oftneſt, once a fortnight, would be more induſtrious, more frugal, and leſs turbulent, than when they receive their wages by the day or by the week. At preſent, however large their wages, they ſtill live, as it were, from hand to mouth; conſuming as it is received, whatever has been earned by the week's labour, in the ſecurity of receiving a new ſupply with the end of the enſuing week.—Nay, ſuch has been, of late, the demand for labour, and ſuch the imprudence of our manufacturers, that the wages of ſeveral weeks have been often advanced to workmen, before the labour was performed. This practice is only to adminiſter to the diſſipation, the idleneſs, the miſerable poverty of workmen. Hardly any practice could be introduced, having a tendency more directly pernicious to the nerves of induſtry, of opulence, of frugality, of virtue in a community.

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THE labours of miners are certainly more noxious to the health than many other ſpecies of employment. Yet, here died, two or three years ago, an old miner, at an age conſiderably above an hundred. His name was John Taylor. His organs and faculties continued in vigour nearly to the laſt. What was farther remarkable, was, that he had never been eminent for that temperate abſtinence which is eſteemed favourable to longevity. A dram and a draught of good ale he had been accuſtomed to take freely through all his life, and believed them neceſſary to the ſupport of his health and ſpirits.

IN the intervals of their labour, theſe miners find time for reading. They have even furniſhed themſelves with a common library which contains a conſiderable number of good Engliſh authors. Many of them are of the religious ſect of the Seceders or of the M'Millanites. They have likewiſe among them a chapel, and a chaplain of our eſtabliſhed church; being too diſtant from the pariſh-church, to attend the weekly ſervice in it.

THE lead is conveyed, as prepared, in bars to Leith. Good carriage roads being neceſſary for this conveyance; on this account probably, have the roads between Leadhills and Edinburgh been more carefully repaired, than might otherwiſe have happened

pened. The carts coming and going frequently with lead between Leith and Leadhills, have opened an eaſy communication for the whole country through which the road leads, with the metropolis; and in this way, have ſignally contributed to the improvement of the country, and the accommodation of its inhabitants.

THIS tract of country is one wide range of mountains. They ſwell to a great height, but are round, not peaked at the ſummit. Some are green; others, brown over, with heath. Cloſe upon the wayſide, between Clyde bridge and Leadhills, are ſeveral decent houſes of modern erection, with little plantations of wood riſing about them; which form a pleaſing contraſt with the wildneſs of the environs.

To what has been before mentioned concerning the mines and the village of Leadhills, I ſhall here add from later information, That the Earl of Hopetoun, the proprietor of theſe mines, receives from the Company who are tackſmen of them, every ſixth bar of lead for his rent;—That, the ore has of late been found in unuſual abundance;—That in 1786, 10,080 bars of lead were caſt here, and in 1790 no fewer than about 18,000;—That immediately after the American war, the price of lead roſe, but has again fallen ſomewhat; and that the foreign markets

kets to which this lead is chiefly exported are, thoſe of Holland and Ruſſia.

After croſſing the river by the bridge, I continued my journey towards Elvan-foot, by an old pariſh road which, although ſhorter, has been little travelled, ſince the high-way was perfected on the oppoſite ſide of the river. As I advanced, I had many new proofs of what I have before obſerved concerning the ancient occupancy and population of this country. The earth was raiſed high around the cottages. Where trees ſurrounded them, thoſe trees were venerably ancient. Nay, I ſaw reaſon to infer, that the population was diminiſhed; for not a few of the cottages were ruinous and deſerted. In one or two ſituations, I obſerved remains of old caſtles, the names of which, I had not opportunity to learn. At a mile's diſtance above the bridge is a marſhy plain of narrow extent, but divided from the contiguous baſe of the hills by a ſort of dry trench, which I ſhould ſuppoſe to have been the ancient channel of the river.

As I rode on, the road became gradually more rugged, and with it the aſpect of the ſurrounding country. Theſe are the Southern Highlands of Scotland. Agriculture is but little tried among them. Some ſpots of ground ſcattered here and there,

there, are indeed ſufficiently ſuſceptible of cultivation, and not without fertility to reward the labour of the huſbandman. But, even on theſe, it is ſo very late before grains are ripened, that they are commonly ſhaken by winds, withered by froſt, or rotten by rains, before they can be cut down, and gathered in. Theſe mountains are then appropriated chiefly to the purpoſes of paſture. They are divided into large farms; the rents of which, although at a very trifling rate for the acre, are, however, commonly from two to three hundred pounds for each farm. A conſiderable part of the ſtock of every farmer in theſe parts, formerly conſiſted in black cattle. But theſe have, by degrees, given place to ſheep. Sheep are now the favourite ſtock of the farmers of Crawford-muir: And I have reaſon to believe that they are the moſt ſkilful and ſucceſsful ſhepherds in Scotland. The ſheep which they are accuſtomed to rear, are theſe commonly named among them *ſhort* ſheep, having black faces and black feet. The value of a ſheep's graſs, for a year, is eſtimated at two ſhillings. The beſt of theſe are ſold at twelve or fifteen ſhillings a head. Their wool is coarſe, and brings only from five to ſeven ſhillings, a ſtone. Sheep of a different breed, and bearing finer and more valuable wool, have been lately recommended to the ſhepherds through Scotland, by a ſociety formed for the improvement of

Britiſh wool. The ſheep fed on the Cheviot hills, in Northumberland are of this breed. Their wool brings from twelve to fifteen ſhillings a ſtone. But, of this wool a greater number of fleeces are required to make up the ſtone; and at all the Engliſh markets, the *ſhort* ſheep are purchaſed in preference to theſe laſt, becauſe their fleſh is confeſſedly more delicate, and of a better flavour. Converſing with one farmer in theſe parts, who was avowedly an advocate for the Cheviot breed; he could not avoid acknowledging the inferiority of the fleſh of theſe, but inſiſted, that to his own taſte, it was but *very ſlight*. The turn of the farmers of theſe parts to the rearing and management of ſheep has contributed, in a conſiderable degree, to the depopulation of the country. The population of the pariſh of Crawford is aſſerted to be one-half leſs than it was, forty years ago; an aſſertion which confirms the inference I have deduced from the number of the ruinous and deſolate cottages by which I had occaſion to paſs.

The price of labour has riſen greatly in this neighbourhood, within theſe laſt thirty years. A maid ſervant has now two pounds for the wages of her labour in the ſummer half-year, who at the diſtance of thirty years backwards would hardly have obtained one pound. A ploughman living in his maſter's houſe, has from ſix to eight pounds of yearly

yearly wages. A ſhepherd, living in his own cottage, and tending his maſter's flock, gets from ten to twelve pounds in the year. In this country of ſheep and ſhepherds, *dogs* are the favourite, domeſtic animals, and are highly uſeful by their ſervices. They are trained by their maſters to the exerciſe of ſurpriſing ſagacity. Each ſhepherd is attended by his dog. Remaining himſelf in the vale, he ſends his dog up the hill, to gather in or drive forward his ſheep. The dog having executed his commiſſion, returns for new orders from the maſter. They converſe in a ſet of vocal ſigns; and the dog has intelligence to comprehend, and ſubmiſſion to obey very complicated commands.

THIS country is well known to have been within the limits of the Roman province of Valentia. Within this diſtrict are yet to be ſeen the remains of two Roman roads; and the ſites of three camps, ſuppoſed to be Roman, but ſo entirely effaced, that this cannot be, with certainty, determined. I had an opportunity of ſurveying the caſtle of Crawford, now deſolate and ruinous, ſituate cloſe upon the river, oppoſite to the village of Crawford. Its walls ſtill ſtand. It is ſurrounded with trees; and by the ſtructure, appears to have been intended not leſs for protection, than for accommodation. Tower-Lindſay, a more ancient edifice, built on the ſame ſite,

was famous in the days of our renowned Wallace. Being occupied by an Engliſh garriſon, that hero took it by ſtorm; killing fifty of the garriſon in the aſſault. For ſecurity, the farm-houſes on Crawford-muir were anciently ſtone-vaults: and of theſe ſome ſtill remain. In theſe ſtrong-holds, the inhabitants lurked, when invaded by the plundering rapacity of the Douglaſſes from Clydeſdale, and the Jardines and Johnſtones from Annandale. Various hills within this neighbourhood ſtill retain the name of *Watches*, having been anciently the ſtations of ſcouts, who watched the approach of enemies, and in caſe of danger, lighted fires to ſpread the alarm through the country.—It was in the minority of James VI. that a German mineralogiſt viſited theſe hills in ſearch of ores. Among the ſands of the rivers of Elvan and Glengonar, (both riſing from thoſe hills in the bowels of which veins of lead ore have ſince been opened,) he gathered ſome ſmall quantities of gold duſt. A place where he waſhed this gold, ſtill retains the name of *Gold Scour*, derived from that circumſtance. Verſes are ſtill repeated among the neighbouring inhabitants, which import, that this mineralogiſt, by his ſucceſsful ſearches, accumulated a large fortune. An account of his labours and diſcoveries, written by himſelf, is yet preſerved in the Advocates' Library. The attempt to gather gold on theſe hills, was, not very many

years

years ſince, renewed by the order of the late Earl of Hopetoun; but being found leſs profitable than common labour, was, very wiſely, ſoon diſcontinued. It is ſtill occaſionally found on the tops of the rocks, in ſmall particles, ſeldom exceeding in ſize, the point of a ſmall pin.

Near to the highway, and on the ſide of the river oppoſite to that on which I travelled, is the old church-yard of the pariſh of Crawford, in which are buried ſome of thoſe who were ſhot, in the days of Charles II. by the ſoldiers, whom his Parliament and Miniſters in Scotland employed in the war which they waged with Puritaniſm and the Covenanters. The graves of thoſe who fell in that cauſe, are ſtill venerated through Scotland, as the graves of martyrs.

THE village of Crawford is of conſiderable antiquity: it is occupied by feuars, holding under the proprietors of the neighbouring lands. They have uſed to hold what has been called a freedom, conſiſting of four or five acres of *croft* land for each family; with the privilege of feeding, each a certain number of ſheep, cows, and horſes on *the hill*, or common paſture. They were governed by a *birley* court in which every proprietor of a freedom had a vote. The chief buſineſs of this court was always

to

to decide what number of ſheep, cows, and horſes each feuar had a right to feed on the common. The buſineſs of the Court was concluded with feſtivity at the alehouſe. Theſe old feuars were an indolent race. Their little tenements afforded them ſuſtenance without requiring them to undergo the fatigue of labour: And they were little ſolicitous to improve their circumſtances. It ſhould ſeem that this eſtabliſhment muſt have been formed for the maintenance of the retainers of the lords of the ancient caſtle,—Douglaſſes or Crawfords. Both military habits, then, and the character of the retainers and ſervants of a great man—would contribute to the indolence of thoſe villagers.

The manners of the preſent inhabitants of theſe parts are ſuch as do no diſgrace to the ſhepherd life. Truth, honeſty, and a moderate ſhare of induſtry ſufficiently diſtinguiſh them. Licentiouſneſs in pleaſure does not yet prevail here. Animal food makes a principal part of their ſuſtenance. As the population is not conſiderable, in proportion to the extent of the country; the inhabitants are generally in eaſy circumſtances. The farmers live comfortably; and even the cottagers ſeem to be, for the moſt part richer, than the labourers and artizans in many other places who receive equal wages. A ſequeſtered ſituation, and a neighbourhood thinly inhabited

inhabited are favourable to habits of frugality, if unfavourable to induſtry. The temptations to expence are here unknown; and the diſtance of markets where neceſſaries or conveniencies might be purchaſed, obliges every one to lay in a little ſtock at once; by which means he is accuſtomed to the poſſeſſion of property.

The aſcent is conſiderable between Clyde Bridge and the Kirk of Crawford. Yet, through this part of its courſe, the river falls, without any remarkable cataract, to command the wonder and ſuſpend the attention of the traveller. A few decent houſes have been built, of late, having their roofs ſlated, and with narrow parks, incloſed and planted about them. Hereafter the rugged aſpect of theſe ſcenes may be greatly ſoftened; and the Clyde may to its very ſource, diſplay a continued ſeries of cultivated and decorated landſcapes.—Not that I ſhould wiſh to ſee my countrymen all one nation whether, of artiſans or of huſbandmen. I, for my part, think it neceſſary to the ſafety, and to the true proſperity of a country, that the ſhepherd, the huſbandman, and the manufacturer ſhould be intermingled in it: that there ſhould be diverſity of characters, diverſity of employments, diverſity of ranks, among its inhabitants. This *concordia diſcors* will conſtitute its trueſt ſtrength. There was a time in the hiſtory of ſociety

ciety, when the ſubdiviſion of the arts was little known. Every individual or every family there prepared for themſelves every article of neceſſity or convenience. But, how much more uncomfortable was then the condition of human life? How ſmall the ingenuity and the induſtry which men then exerted? How few the enjoyments they provided for themſelves? How little were they exalted either in intelligence or accommodation above the brutes? —Now, as the ſubdiviſion of the Arts has been the great cauſe of their improvement, and has contributed, more eſſentially perhaps than any other cauſe, to give ſtrength, grace and dignity to ſocial life; So, does it ſeem reaſonable to conclude, that diverſity of employments, and diverſity of ſituations in life, affording ſcope to every different degree of perfection in the bodily organs,—to every different degree, and every different caſt of mental ability,—to every turn of imagination, and to every variety of paſſion or humour,—muſt call forth all the energies of the human character, and exalt ſociety to the higheſt perfection of which it is capable. When we look round the world, or review the hiſtory of paſt times, we perceive that every ſtage in the progreſs of ſocial life poſſeſſes its peculiar advantages. The diſdainful freedom, the invincible endurance, the acute ſenſation, the matchleſs cunning of the ſavage hunter have been juſtly celebrated. The ſimple

manners

manners, the *living moving* riches, the roaming ſpirit, the neceſſarily hardy character, with ſome reliſh which the hunter has not attained, for the comfort of more ſettled life,—which diſtinguiſh the ſhepherd tribes, have formed them for the conquerors of the earth. The huſbandman is fit perhaps above all others for the temperate enjoyment, and the ſteady defence of the bleſſings of cultivated life. The artiſan, where manufactures are not very aſſiduouſly cultivated, little differs in character from the huſbandman; when manufacture is the predominant ſpecies of induſtry, the manufacturer has greater docility, and is capable of more intenſe temporary exertion than the huſbandman, but is inferior in foreſight. Now, unite all theſe characters in the ſame ſociety; and if they harmonize, it will be ſtronger, than any other arrangement could poſſibly render it. They muſt harmonize; for they are formed mutually to accommodate one other. Only give them, in addition the merchant, to be the bond of the common union.—The policy of ſtates is regulated by the predominancy of one or another of theſe characters among their reſpective members. Upon this, is their general character of peaceful or warlike formed. The former are too military; the latter too timid, too ſoft, too pacific. No diffuſion of refinement, no frequency of national intercourſe, no enlargement of knowledge, will prevent

ſtates abſolutely manufacturing and commercial, and living in great perfection of civil order—from becoming a prey to the incroachments of more daring and martial barbariſm. I have heard ſome amiably benevolent philoſophers expreſs their opinion, that the art of Printing contributing to illuminate Public opinion, and to diffuſe civility ſo much more ſpeedily and more generally than in the ancient world, muſt ſo rapidly civilize any barbarians who ſhould over-run modern Europe, that eſtabliſhment in the ſeats of European refinement would operate an inſtant alteration in their nature. But, the benevolent philoſophers of antiquity, if they had ever dreaded the inroads of barbariſm and ignorance, might with as much reaſon have conſoled themſelves, that theſe would ſoon be ſubdued by the *Art of Writing*.—Another argument which a benevolent philoſophy has equally ſuggeſted, to fortify us againſt the fear of ever again ſeeing the night of Gothic barbariſm and ignorance return over Europe,—is—That the nations can never be conquered without artillery and a complicated military diſcipline, like their own, being employed againſt them; and that before any invaders can learn the uſe of theſe, they muſt learn alſo the arts of civility which have ariſen with theſe, muſt become refined, civilized, and enlightened, like thoſe whom they invade.—But, this is futile reaſoning. Soldiers have never been the moſt civilized

of

of mankind. All the mechanic arts may be acquired by imitation, although not invented, without conferring any conſiderable ſhare of intelligence or refinement on thoſe who thus acquire them. The beſt ſoldiers in Europe at preſent, are of the nations the leaſt civilized. All the pomp of artillery, and of military evolutions, without hardy, vigorous ſoldiers, and a nation willing to try the chances, will prove uſeleſs before bold barbarians hardly acquainted with military order, but ardent for conqueſt, and prodigal of life.

No: Our beſt ſecurity againſt a ſecond invaſion of barbariſm, muſt be,—to preſerve, if poſſible, in every ſtate, a mixture of the different ſpirits which animate mankind in the different ſtages of ſocial improvement. Let us diſcourage the immoderate growth of the great towns; Encourage agriculture, by ſcattering manufacturing conſumers of its productions, in ſmall colonies, over the country; Encourage the ſhepherd life, in ſcenes peculiarly adapted by nature for paſturage; ſpread fiſhermen round our coaſts; ſend hunters to our mountains, and woodmen out into our foreſts. Thus may we in ſecurity enjoy the advantages, cultivate fine arts, and participate, in ſuch as are innocent of the refined gratifications of luxury.

Newton: and to Holestane.

I HAD again croſſed the river near the old caſtle of Crawfurd, and continued my ride along the high-way to the inn of Elvanfoot ſituate juſt upon the junction of the river Elvan with the Clyde. This inn, which I ſhould ſuppoſe to have been miſrepreſented by ſome late Engliſh Travellers, as more wretched than it really is,—I had not occaſion to enter. Having formerly experienced the kind hoſpitality of Mr Hope, the reſpectable farmer of Newton. I again croſſed the river by a decent ſtone bridge which has been here thrown over it, and for the reſt of the afternoon and the evening enjoyed Mr Hope's converſation and friendly hoſpitality.

Next day, I continued my journey towards Dumfries. The country is of the wildeſt and moſt uncultivated appearance, on both hands, for the whole length of the way between Newton or Elvanfoot and Durriſdeer Kirk. The houſe of Newton preſently occupied by Mr Hope, and the property of Mr Irvin of Newton, is a large houſe; but being more than ſufficient for the accommodation of Mr Hope's family, it has not been carefully repaired, from time to time, and begins to become ruinous.

It

It hangs with a pictureſeque effect, over the channel of the river. It is ſheltered on both ſides, by a ſmall plantation of not very thriving pines. A hill ſcreens it above. The inn of Elvanfoot fronts it on the oppoſite ſide of the river. The road from this place to the Kirk above-mentioned is as rugged and difficult as can well be imagined. No bridges have been thrown over the rivers. The ſurveyor ſeems not to have pointed its direction; nor the hand of the labourer to have ever attempted to remove the rocks, or fill up the gullies. Sheep wander over the adjoining heaths. The ſhepherd with his dogs here and there appear to animate the ſcene. The hills on either hand vary their forms, as the traveller advances; incroaching in one place, in another, receding; now preſenting a more obtuſe, and now, a more acute angle; but ſtill, without other clothing than the brown heath. The farm houſes, are not only mean and incommodious, but have their office-houſes,—barn, byre, ſtable, peat-houſe,—ſo crowded upon them, as to render the *cloſs* or area before the door, a ſcene of indeſcribable filth and confuſion. Here are the ſources of the Clyde, and in the ſame range of mountains, of ſeveral other rivers, which fall into the ſea, either on the weſtern, or on the eaſtern coaſt. Of theſe, the Clyde and the Tweed are two of the moſt conſiderable rivers in Scotland, holding their courſe through

great

great lengths of country before they join the ſea: And as no ſtream can, in its courſe riſe to an elevation above that of its Spring,---and yet the tract of country through which theſe rivers run, is varied by continual inequalities;---hence may it be inferred, that the height of theſe hills is poſſibly the moſt conſiderable in the South of Scotland. A point where ſeveral naſcent ſtreams bring the firſt tributes to the Clyde, is called the WATER-MEETINGS.

THE predominant character of the circumjacent rocks ſeems to be ſchiſtous. Onwards from Elvanfoot, a few miles ſouthward, towards Durriſdeer, and weſtward from the highway, is the ſlate-quarry of Glenuchar. Workmen from England have been employed to open and work it. The ſlates are of excellent quality. But, the remote and almoſt inacceſſible ſituation of the quarry ſeems to have hitherto prevented this work from being proſecuted with any conſiderable ſpirit. It is painful to ſee the natural riches of any country lie thus, either altogether, or almoſt entirely, neglected. Even the neighbouring inhabitants ſeem to retain a partiality for the uſe of turf, heath, and ſtraw, which makes them cover their houſes commonly with theſe materials, in preference to ſlates which they can ſo eaſily obtain.

AFTER

After a ride of eight or ten dreary miles, the traveller, at length, beholds a fairer lanſcape open before him. He reaches the verge of the height, and has now to purſue his way for nearly two miles, almoſt down the front of a precipice. The hills open, ſo as to form a narrow paſs: And the aſpect which they preſent, on either hand, is harſh and rugged, as if the oppoſite fronts had been torn aſunder by violence. On the ſouthern ſide, the road, a comparatively narrow path has been cut with difficulty. It is conſtantly rough with ſmall, or perhaps abſolutely obſtructed with greater fragments of ſtone, rolling down upon it, from the broken front of the hill above. Below, on the other hand, the chaſm ſinks to a conſiderable depth, and the abrupt declivity riſing beyond it, preſents nothing to the eye, but the crumbling of ſchiſtous rocks. But, the proſpect now opening to the weſt and the ſouth-weſt is more pleaſing: a level country, divided, cultivated, rough here and there with wood, and having decent houſes ſcattered over it. On the foreground is the Kirk of Durriſdeer, diſtinguiſhed by the burial-place of the noble family of Queenſbury. Beſide this church is a ſmall cluſter of cottages, extremely mean and covered with thatch. But, the traveller, after croſſing the dreary muirs of Crawford is highly gratified to ſee a few habitations before

fore him, and to find himſelf approaching a cultivated diſtrict.

THIS range of mountains is of great extent. It forms a waving, irregular ridge which ſtretches almoſt from the weſtern to the eaſtern coaſt. It is the moſt ſouthern range in Scotland. The *Ochils* and *Grampians*, with their appendages. Other ſimilar ridges meet theſe in a tranſverſe direction. Inſulated mounts and hills riſe here and there.

BESIDE this paſs, croſſing Crawford-muir, and terminating at Durriſdeer Kirk, there is another, to the northweſt, called *Enterkin;* another full higher in the ſame direction near the ancient Burgh of Sanquhar: To the South-eaſt, by Moffat, there is yet another, through which the great highway between Dumfries and Edinburgh leads.

THE ancient family of the Douglaſſes, in that grandeur, to which they had riſen before the reign of James II. when their wealth and power rivalled thoſe of the Crown,—were proprietors of a great part of this range of hills. Their property being forfeited by rebellion, returned into the hands of the ſovereign, and was by degrees parcelled out, anew, among other ſubjects. Lord Douglaſs and the Duke of Queenſbury are however, proprietors

of

of a conſiderable extent of land in this neighbourhood; the eſtates of the former lying chiefly on the northern ſide,—thoſe of the latter, on the ſouthern ſide of theſe hills.

The great proprietors in theſe diſtricts have the wiſdom to deal more liberally with their tenants than many other Scotch landholders do. They give them leaſes for a good number of years together, and are pleaſed to ſee their farmers in comfortable circumſtances. Some of the other proprietors of the lands of Scotland; chiefly thoſe indeed who have but newly purchaſed their land-property; either incapable of diſcerning their own true intereſts, or through an oppreſſive deſire to retain the peaſantry as nearly as poſſible in the ſlaviſh, deſtitute condition of the ancient villainage,—refuſe any length of leaſe, and require the moſt exorbitant rents; thus leaving it impoſſible for it to be ſaid of them, unleſs calumniouſly, that any farmer has thus made his fortune on their eſtates.

The narrow paſs, immediately above Durriſdeer Kirk, is named the Wallpath. Towards the opening are the remains of an old earthen or mud-wall fort, called *Drer*-caſtle, which formerly commanded the paſs. The higheſt of theſe hills is the Lowthers; the top of which is very often ſnow-clad.

The river rifing near its baſe, falls into the Nith, as it runs along the ſouthern ſide of the hills.

THE country now aſſumed the name of Nithſdale, from the river, which riſing on the confines of Ayrſhire, holds its courſe in a ſouth-eaſtern direction, till it diſcharges its waters into the Solway-Frith, a few miles below the town of Dumfries.

NITHSDALE is rich in coals, limeſtone, and freeſtone. Its ſoil generally fertile, highly cultivated, and ſuſceptible of yet higher cultivation. Around Durriſdeer Kirk, the agriculture is ſtill ſuch as to ſhew, that the huſbandmen's induſtry is rather ſlackened by the ſeductive example of the indolence of the ſhepherds in their neighbourhood. As I advanced, the road became leſs rough. But, the ſeaſon being wet, and the ſoil ſoft and deep, I found it here and there broken into miry pits which were almoſt impaſſable. The labourers were ſtill buſy in the fields: here cutting down the corn, and there ſpreading it out to the ſun, or carrying it in. The ſurface, from the baſe of the hills to the bank of the Nith is almoſt level; yet ſinking and ſwelling occaſionally, with variations of the level which would be beautiful, if clumps and belts of wood were ſcattered over the ſcene in ſufficient abundance. Not that it is abſolutely bare of wood. But even where there

there are trees, theſe are ragged and withered, ſo as rather to give an air of deſolation, than of beauty. Here and there, too, I remarked remains of old walls; and from theſe appearances was led to conclude, that this tract of ground, now parcelled out among farmers, muſt have been formerly incloſed as parks for deer or cattle for the Duke of Queenſbury, whoſe property it is, and whoſe caſtle of Drumlanerig ſtands near.

To me it ſeems, that the ſituation and the nature of the ſoil invite the farmers of theſe parts rather to the raiſing of crops of grain than to the management of black-cattle, or ſheep. But their cares ſeem to be divided between the two. In the pariſh of Durriſdeer a ſtock of about ten thouſand and five hundred ſheep is kept. The *Cheviot* or *long* ſheep, lately introduced here by ſome of the more intelligent farmers have afforded extraordinary annual returns from their wool. Potatoes and barley are raiſed on the arable grounds with great induſtry. Oats, as through the reſt of Scotland, are the favourite crop. Wheat has been tried, and not unſucceſsfully. The inhabitants of this neighbourhood furniſh the miners of Wanlockhead and Leadhills with conſiderable quantities of grain and meal. The farmers on this part of the Queenſbury eſtates complain of the inconvenience attending the per-

formance of certain ſervitudes which ſtill continue to be exacted from them.—By a negligence, unfavourable above all others, to the progreſſive improvement of a country, the means provided by Act of Parliament for the formation and reparation of pariſh roads ſeem not to be ſkilfully or attentively applied to their purpoſes. I have already had occaſion to obſerve, that the ſtate of the bye-roads is invariably the beſt criterion of the induſtry and opulence of any particular diſtrict.—Coals are found in the neighbourhood of Sanquhar, at but a ſmall diſtance from Durriſdeer and its immediate environs. But, the imperfection of the roads renders this fuel more expenſive than might, at firſt, be ſuppoſed, to the inhabitants of theſe parts.

On the oppoſite ſide of the river Nith ſtands Drumlanerig caſtle, the principal ſeat of the Ducal family of Queenſbury. It is a noble, ſpacious edifice, more Gothic than Grecian; well adapted for the abode of a great and opulent nobleman, holding a little court among his dependents and vaſſals. I know not, at preſent, the particular date of its erection. It muſt have been, as I ſhould ſuppoſe, towards the end of the laſt century, or in the beginning of the preſent. Having now been, for a number of years, greatly neglected; it has an air of decay and deſolation. The extenſive and ſtately

woods

woods around it have been gradually cut down. The wild cattle in its parks have been exterminated. Modern improvements not having advanced about it in the ſame proportion in which its ancient magnificence has been dilapidated; it now preſents the melancholy image of fallen grandeur, and periſhing art.

The anceſtors of the family of Queenſbury were a branch of the ancient Douglaſſes, whom ſome circumſtances lead me to ſuppoſe to have been rather of Saxon or of Britiſh, than of Norman origin. It is well known that between the reign of Alexander III. and that of James II. the family of the Douglaſſes had riſen to an enormous height of power, and had acquired the property of the greater part of the lands in the ſouthern counties of Scotland. The eſtates of the preſent family of Queenſbury were then theirs. Vaſt poſſeſſions in Galloway had been acquired by intermarriage with the family of the Comyns. The forfeiture of their eſtates in the reign of James II. conveyed their property in this part of Scotland to the Crown. Theſe lands were gradually granted away to other families which aroſe. But the deſcendents of the Douglaſſes regained a part of their ancient poſſeſſions. In this tract of country is *Morton* giving a title to the Earl of *Morton*. And the Duke of Queenſbury is proprietor of moſt of thoſe

thoſe lands in Nithſdale which were formerly the property of the heroic Barons of Douglas. The riſe and the ſeries of the family of Queenſbury, I ſhall not attempt to trace. Its repreſentative at the period of the Union, appears to have had a very active concern in the accompliſhment of that event. His ſucceſſor was the friend of Pope, and the patron of Gay. He and his Ducheſs ſurvived all their children. They are remembered in Nithſdale with the fondeſt veneration and regret. The preſent Duke of Queenſbury is well known in the gay circles about Court.

At Holeſtain, I experienced the liberal hoſpitality of Mr Harkneſs, one of the moſt extenſive and moſt intelligent farmers on this part of the Duke of Queenſbury's eſtates. His corn was ſnug in his barn-yard. His ſervants were buſy in taking up the potatoes. The *ſmearing* of his ſheep he had not yet begun. I could not but think it ſtrange that I ſhould not have found the harveſt ſo far advanced in any other part of the country, ſince I had paſſed through the vale of *Glenurquhy*.

HOLESTAIN,---to DUMFRIES.

I CONTINUED my journey, in the evening, towards Dumfries. Soon after paſſing Holeſtain, I entered on one of the beſt roads I have ever travelled; level, ſmooth, dry, and of ſufficient breadth. Turnpikes have been erected upon it at proper diſtances. This mode of collecting a fund for the forming and repairing of highways is certainly one of the moſt ingenious and equitable that have been contrived. Every individual pays, by this arrangement, exactly in proportion to the benefit which he receives. The more generally turnpikes are employed, ſo much the more numerous and more uſeful are our roads likely to become.

ON my right hand as I proceeded, lay a branch or *ſpur* of thoſe mountains which I croſſed. This ſecondary range ſpreads out into Galloway, and at the ſame time extends ſouthward, ſo as to form an irregular barrier dividing Nithſdale and Annandale from Galloway. At ſome diſtance weſtward is *Penpont*, where a very ancient arch is thrown over a ſtream which pours down, in ſtorms, with great impetuoſity from the mountains. Except the ſtripe immediately on the weſtern bank of the Nith, and ſimilar,

ſimilar, but much narrower ſtripes of land on the banks of ſmaller rivers falling into it; all this diſtrict is mountainous and fit only to afford paſture for ſheep and black-cattle. The hills, riſe up in a great variety of rugged forms; and inſtead of the ſchiſtous rocks of Crawford-muir; we have here the *whinſtone*, and the grey granite.

The river *Cairn* is the next ſtream which falls from the north-weſt, after paſſing through the vale of Glencairn, it joins the Nith, before reaching Dumfries. Along the banks of the Cairn, agricultural induſtry ſeems to have done all that could be expected in a ſituation ſo ſecluded among impervious hills. But, here is ſo extenſive a tract of paſture-ground, partly in Galloway,---partly in Dumfries-ſhire,---partly in Lanarkſhire, and partly in Ayrſhire;---that I am ſorry to ſee the whole ſo hopeleſsly appropriated to the purpoſes of rearing black-cattle and ſheep. It *may* be improved, and filled with population. But, great wiſdom and great public ſpirit will be neceſſary to accompliſh theſe ends; and after all, the improvement muſt proceed ſlowly.---Let the proprietors of the lands learn to fix themſelves at home, with a reſolution to enrich themſelves by promoting the improvement of their domains.---Let them build themſelves comfortable ſeats, wherever they do not already poſſeſs ſuch.—Let them open

open up the country by parish-roads, by cross-roads which may join the highways in every direction, and by roads to every village, and market town.---Wherever there is a suitable situation, let them bring together the few families of artisans that may be necessary to supply the more common parts of dress, furniture, and labouring utensils to the respective neighbourhoods.---Let them next consider, whether the country possesses peculiar advantages for any manufactures.---Were it not better to work up their wool into cloth than to export it raw?---Or if it should be a matter of difficulty to establish a manufacture of woollen-cloth,---why not prepare it with greater pains for the carder and spinner? The dressing of wool in Spain is of itself a very complex piece of industry, subdivided into many subordinate branches.---Again, are there not streams on which cotton works might be erected?---May not hides be imported from Ireland, from Russia, from America, and dressed here, with sufficient advantage? May not flax be imported from America or from the north countries on the continent of Europe, and with sufficient advantage, manufactured here into linen. Were a few clusters of manufacturers once scatterred over this wild country; agriculture would necessarily spread through it, with them: and this intermixture of artisans, of husbandmen, and of shepherds, would form the happiest, the most virtu-

ous and the moſt independent ſociety that patriotiſm could deſire to ſee ſettled in theſe parts.

It is remarkable that through this tract of country, the names of places are univerſally Gaelic. The Saxons or Eaſt-Angles, when they drove back the Picts and Scots from the territories which theſe had ſeized upon the departure of the Romans out of the iſland,---ſeem never to have penetrated into the interior parts of Galloway and Dumfries-ſhire. Theſe mountains ſeem to have ſerved as faſtneſſes to which that part of the Picts who had advanced fartheſt to the ſouth-weſt, retired for ſecurity againſt the hoſtilities of the Saxons. Had it been otherwiſe, the names of the hills, farms, or ſmaller rivers muſt undoubtedly have been Anglo-Saxon. It appears probable therefore, that, till after the extinction of the family of the old lords of Galloway, and the partition of their eſtates among the Baliols, the Bruces, the Comyns, the Douglaſſes, the Kennedies,--the inhabitants of the landward parts of Galloway were a pure, unmixed race of Picts.

But, the oppoſite bank of the Nith preſents a fairer extent of fertile ground, than that which lies towards Galloway. In Cloſeburn is abundance of limeſtone uſeful alike to encourage the neighbouring inhabitants to lodge themſelves in comfortable hou-

ſes

ſes, and to promote the improvement of the arable land. If quarried and prepared for theſe uſes with great earneſtneſs, and with every deſireable advantage to the proprietor.---It is pleaſing to remark how one advantage for improvement promotes improvement in general! The uſe of lime for a manure has made the inhabitants of this neighbourhood turn their attention more aſſiduouſly to agriculture. Ploughing up their fields, they have ſeen it neceſſary to divide and ſubdivide them by ſuitable fences. Uſing ploughs and carts, they have perceived the neceſſity of forming good roads. Enriched by the ſucceſs of their farming, they have naturally deſired better houſes and gardens, better clothes, more luxurious eating and drinking. Such is the concomitant progreſs of induſtry and luxury. Only awake either induſtry, or the deſire of gratification. The one rouſes the other; and they continue to advance hand in hand, till the facility of gratification renders deſire important.

THE farm-houſes, as one proceeds down the bank of the Nith to Dumfries, become more and more decent; the houſes inhabited by perſons above the rank of farmers become numerous; and by the natural effect of cultivation, even where ornament is not ſtudied, or becauſe wherever cultivation has been carried to a conſiderable height, ornament, is there

neceſſarily ſtudied,—from which ever of theſe cauſes, certain it is, that the diviſion of the fields, the riſing wood ſcattered here and there over them, and the neatneſs of the houſes, give an aſpect to this part of Nithſdale, which may well pleaſe even him who has been accuſtomed to view the moſt ornamented tracts of the moſt naturally beautiful country.

Closeburn has been long the ſeat of the Kirkpatricks, one of the moſt ancient families in this part of Britain. I ſuppoſe them to have been of Norman origin, and to have come into Scotland in the reign of Malcolm Canmore. Before the riſe of the diſputes about the Scottiſh ſucceſſion which ended in the exaltation of Robert Bruce, the Kirkpatricks were ſettled in this neighbourhood. Roger de Kirkpatrick ſeconded the blow by which John Comyn of Badenoch was ſlain at Dumfries, to make room for Bruce's ambition.

The pariſh of Cloſeburn is famous for one of the beſt Schools in Scotland. A conſiderable endowment was, it ſeems, provided for it, by ſome generous friend to learning,—at what diſtance of time backwards, I know not. But, even this endowment might have failed to make it eminent, had not the late Mr Mundel, a very worthy and amiable man, and an uncommonly able claſſical ſcholar,—been fortunately

tunately appointed Maſter. A Schoolmaſter at once able and amiable is a very uncommon phænomenon in Scotland. Mr Mundel's character therefore eaſily attracted ſcholars from various quarters. The agreeable, rural ſituation of the School, the paternal attention which Mr Mundel was underſtood to pay to pupils placed in his houſe, and the riſing claſſical fame of this ſeminary under his direction, made many reſpectable parents deſirous to place their children under the immediate tuition of this worthy man. Many gentlemen, educated by him, have already diſtinguiſhed themſelves in the world. Having been, for a great number of years, uſeful and reſpectable in this ſituation, and having lived in all the vigour and chearfulneſs of youth to a good old age,—he died within theſe laſt two years. The ſchool is now under the management of his ſon.—To a character ſo worthy, one is proud to ſeize an opportunity of offering even a mite of praiſe.

The environs of Dumfries are in a ſtate of high cultivation. Gentlemen's ſeats are ſcattered as thick around it, as around Edinburgh or Glaſgow, although not through ſo extenſive an area. It was night before I could reach this city. But, the ſky was clear and ſerene; the moon ſhone bright: and reſolved as I was, on this journey,—as through the journey of life, if I can,—to make the *moſt*, of every

ry advantage, and the *leaſt* of every inconvenience; I highly enjoyed this fine ſcenery, even by moonlight. Near the *Auld-girth* bridge, I remarked ſome ſingle trees, cloſe upon the wayſide—I had the curioſity to ride round one or two of them, and admired their wide-ſpread branches, their buſhy tops, their ſtraight and groſs trunks. Croſſing to the weſtern ſide of the river, by this bridge, I rode on through open fields, and along the fineſt highway, I think, in Scotland, for two miles. Cottages appeared here and there, either cloſe upon the highway, or at a ſmall diſtance. In one place, I could perceive a ſmall lake or overflowed marſh. In another a marſh, having ſmall heaps of wet *peats* ſtill ſpread over the drier parts. On my other hand, I had the banks of the river, generally fringed with wood, ſometimes ſhelving gently and ſometimes riſing more abruptly. At the *New Bridge* I again croſſed to the eaſtern ſide of the river. Near the eaſtern end of this bridge is a cluſter of cottages, pictureſquely ſituate. Here the traveller is ſtill two miles diſtant from Dumfries. Every ſtep he proceeds, new objects, riſe to convince him, that he is about to enter ſome pretty conſiderable city. By eight in the evening, I reached the *George Inn*, in *Dumfries*. The Gentlemen of the Caledonian Hunt were, at this time, met here: and the Inns and the whole town ſo crowded with company, that I could

not,

not, but with the utmoſt difficulty, and after much ſolicitation obtain lodging and entertainment for the night.

DUMFRIES.

DUMFRIES is ſituate on the banks of the Nith, about nine miles above where it diſcharges its waters into the Solway Frith,---in 55° 8′ 30″ of northern latitude,---and 4° 25′ 15″ from the longitude of Greenwich. It is the capital of the ſhire diſtinguiſhed by its name. In the twelfth century it was a place of ſome conſideration. A bridge was, at that remote period, thrown over the Nith, in this ſituation. Some religious houſes were eſtabliſhed here. A caſtle was built. And thus the fiſhing of the river, ---the concourſe of paſſengers drawn hither by the bridge,---the ſanctity of the religious houſes,---and the protection afforded by the caſtle concurred to draw together a little community, and to form a city.

WHILE England and Scotland, were ſeparate kingdoms, under different monarchs, this city was a place of ſtrength to which the Scotch borderers retired from the hoſtile incurſions of the Engliſh. Perhaps the citizens of Dumfries might avail themſelves of their ſituation, and try the ſucceſs of fiſhery, at the time when moſt of our Scottiſh ſea-ports drew

drew ſuch conſiderable opulence from this ſource. As the times became more peaceful, and the adjacent counties of Kirkcudbright-ſhire, and Dumfries-ſhire became more populous and more wealthy; this city derived conſiderable advantages from its being the ſcene of markets and of county meetings. The noble family of Maxwell, firſt of Cærlaverock, afterwards ennobled under the titles of Lord Herreis, and of Earl of Nithſdale, were poſſeſſors of the Caſtle of Dumfries, and in ſome manner lords of the town. When this family fell through miſtaken loyalty and miſtaken religion, Dumfries ſeems to have ſuffered, for a while, by its decline.

WITH its advantages of ſituation, however, it could never ſink into a very low condition. Since the beginning of the preſent century, it has made gradual advances in wealth and population, correſponding to thoſe of the ſurrounding country.—— It is a conſiderable town, containing nearly ſeven thouſand inhabitants. Its principal ſtreet extends full three-fourths of a mile in length: In the middle, it may be nearly an hundred feet wide. Its breadth may be from one-fourth to one-third of a mile. The houſes are, in general handſome. And the ſituation of the town, on the eaſtern bank of the Nith, from which it riſes gradually,—is beautiful and advantageous. The ſtreets are well lighted; the

the pavements may be improved.—It has no remarkably handſome or magnificent public buildings; if we except its Infirmary, erected ten or twelve years ſince,---for the reception of the ſick poor of Galloway and Dumfries-ſhire,---and ſupported by charitable contribution. An handſome Doric column, within a ſquare railing, nearly in the middle of the town, preſerves the memory of the late amiable Duke of Queenſbury, one of the beſt benefactors of Dumfries.---The fleſh-market is a ſquare, ſhaded round, and having behind proper conveniencies for ſlaughter.---Here are two principal inns; and both are tolerably well kept. Dumfries has two churches for the reception of the parochial Congregations of the Eſtabliſhed Church,---an Epiſcopal chapel,---a Methodiſt,---a Relief,---and an Antiburgher meeting-houſe.——The bridge over the Nith, by which Dumfries is connected with Galloway, and with one of its ſuburbs, called the Bridge-end, was erected, five hundred years ago. A new bridge is now a building at ſome diſtance above.

DUMFRIES is a Royal Burgh, governed by a provoſt, bailies, and a town-council, and having the artiſans or *Trades* likewiſe united in different Incorporations. Its public revenue may be about fifteen hundred pounds a-year. It enjoys by its charter,

the privilege of holding two weekly markets, and three annual fairs. To theſe markets and fairs, cattle are brought in for ſale, from all the adjoining country. The toll paid to the town for cattle paſſing along the ancient bridge above-mentioned, amounts to two hundred pounds a-year.

DUMFRIES has little trade, and few manufactures. Forty years ago, large quantities of tobacco were annually imported into the port of Dumfries. That trade has been ſince turned into other channels. About eight or ten veſſels belong at preſent to Dumfries: Theſe are employed in a coaſting trade: bringing in lime, coals, and merchant's goods of various ſorts,—and exporting potatoes and grain. The induſtry of the artiſans of the town is employed chiefly for the direct accommodation of the citizens and of the inhabitants of the circumjacent country. Leather is dreſſed in two or three tanworks. Some ſtockings and hats, with ſome ſmall quantities of linen and coarſe woollen cloths have been manufactured here with ſufficient advantage. Such quantities of flour, meal, and barley are made in the mills belonging to the town as to enable the tackſmen to pay four hundred pounds Sterling of yearly rent. From fifteen hundred to two thouſand dozens of hare-ſkins are annually ſold in Dumfries. Branches of three different banks are eſtabliſhed

bliſhed in this city. A tambour manufacture has been lately attempted here by a company from Glaſgow. Here is a printing-houſe; and a newſpaper is publiſhed weekly.

DUMFRIES is a ſort of Metropolis to the counties, on the meeting confines of which it ſtands. It is the ſeat of the Commiſſary-Court, of the Sheriff's Court, of a Preſbytery and a Synod. The Commiſſioners of the Land Tax for the County of Dumfries hold their meetings here; and the Juſtices of the Peace, their Quarter-Seſſions. The Juſticiary Court too ſits here in the Spring and the Autumn Circuits.

THE Schools of Dumfries have been long eminent. Many very able ſcholars have received their initiatory claſſical education here. Here has been a ſucceſſion of three of the ableſt teachers of the Latin language that have been known for this ſome time in Scotland: Mr Trotter, Dr Chapman, and the preſent Rector of this School, Mr Waite. Here are alſo maſters for the French and Engliſh languages, for the different branches of the Mathematics, for Writing, and for Dancing. Hither, too, are many of the little Miſſes of Galloway and Dumfries-ſhire ſent to receive their education in *boarding-ſchools for young ladies.*

In Dumfries and its immediate neighbourhood are various remains of antiquity. The ſites of two ancient caſtles, one the property of the once powerful family of the Comyns, the other, the property of the Maxwells, are ſtill ſhewn. At the entrance into the town from the North-Eaſt are the remains of an old Chapel, which was built by Bruce, as a place in which maſs might be ſaid for the ſoul of his father-in-law, Sir Chriſtopher Seton, who was hanged on the ſpot, by the order of King Edward I. of England. Here is a field bearing the name of Kingholen, which it is ſuppoſed to derive either from Bruce or from Comyn. Here is alſo an eminence called Kirkland moat, which may have been a ſtation for the conveyance of intelligence in the time of the border feuds. In digging the foundation for a houſe, a leathern bag containing ſome old Scotch coins and ſome metal *fibulæ* or broaches, were ſome years ago, found here. A Roman coin, bearing the inſcription AUGUSTUS, thick as a half-crown, yet not broader than a ſix-pence, was ſome years ſince found in the channel of the Nith. The old Abbey of Lincluden; a ruinous ſtructure, ſtill remains ſufficiently perfect to ſhew, how wonderfully well the Regular Clergy of the Romiſh Church were lodged, at a time when Architecture had done comparatively little for the accommodation of the other inhabitants of this iſland.

DUMFRIES is perhaps a place of higher gaiety and elegance, than any other town in Scotland, of the ſame ſize. The proportion of the inhabitants, who are deſcended of reſpectable families, and have received a liberal education, is greater here, than in any other town in this part of the iſland. Theſe give, by conſequence, a more elevated and poliſhed tone to the manners and general character of this city. The mode of living which prevails here, is rather ſhewy than luxurious. To be eſteemed *genteel*, not to ſit down to a board overloaded with victuals, is the firſt wiſh of every one. The inhabitants of towns flouriſhing in trade and manufactures are frugal only of their time, and of thoſe gratifications which have ſomething oſtentatious in the enjoyment of them. The citizens of Dumfries are frugal of their money, but hold idleneſs, a proof of gentility: and they value only ſuch enjoyments as they can be ſeen to ſhare, and can be eſteemed the greater for ſharing. They delight in fine and faſhionable clothes. They are fond of aſſemblies and plays. A play-houſe has been lately erected here; and the players have fared better than in many more populous and opulent towns.——The amuſements of this city, its advantages for education, its convenient and healthy ſituation allure many of the inferior gentry from the neighbouring counties, to ſpend half, or perhaps the whole year here.

here. The Dumfries and Galloway Hunt meet annually here, and rouſe the town to feſtivity, for a whole week together. Both the Dumfries and Galloway, and the Caledonian Hunts were aſſembled here, at this time. Every inn and ale-houſe was crowded with gueſts. Many, even of the more reſpectable citizens had been perſuaded by the tempting offers of very high rent, to let their beſt rooms for a few days. In the mornings, the ſtreets preſented one buſy ſcene of hair-dreſſers, milliner's apprentices, grooms, and valets, carriages, driving and buſtling backwards and forwards. In the forenoon, almoſt every ſoul, old and young, high and low, maſter and ſervant haſtened out to follow the hounds, or view the races. At the return of the crowd, they were all equally intent, with the ſame buſtle, and the ſame ardent animation, on the important concerns of appetite. The bottle, the ſong, the dance, and the card-table endeared the evening, and gave ſocial converſe power to detain and to charm till the return of morn.—Dumfries, of itſelf, could not afford miniſters of pleaſure enough for ſo great an occaſion. Here were waiters, pimps, chairmen, hairdreſſers, and *ladies*, the prieſts and prieſteſſes of theſe feſtivities, from all thoſe more favourite haunts where pleaſure ordinarily holds her court. Not only all the gayer part of the neighbouring gentry were on this occaſion aſſembled in Dumfries:

but

but the members of the Caledonian Hunt had repaired hither from Edinburgh, from England, and from the more diſtant counties of Scotland. The gay of the one ſex naturally draw together the gay and elegant of the other. Here was ſuch a ſhew of female beauty and elegance as I ſhould ſuppoſe few country towns, whether in Scotland or England, likely to exhibit on any ſimilar occaſion. One of the fineſt animals, after man and woman is an handſome horſe; and of handſome horſes, the race-grounds certainly diſplayed a great number. They were equally decorated with handſome carriages.

The gayer, the more avaricious, and the more unthinking part of the citizens of Dumfries, fondly congratulated themſelves upon this ſeaſon of expence and feſtivity, this concourſe of the great and gay. But, thoſe of a more ſober and reflecting turn, ſeemed rather to indulge a different train of ſentiment upon the occaſion. They feared the effects of the example upon the minds of their women and their youth. They ſuſpected, that deſires of ſplendid luxury might now be excited, and habits of diſſipation formed, which would prove highly deſtructive to the good morals and the proſperity of their city. They ſeemed to think the preſent gain trifling, in compariſon with the evils which

were

were neceſſarily to flow in ſucceſſion from the ſame ſource.

At Dumfries, I fortunately met with a man whom I had long been accuſtomed to eſteem, Dr Lamont, Clergyman of Kirkpatrick-Durham. By his kind invitation, I left Dumfries with him on a Saturday evening, and accompanied him to his manſe, about twelve miles diſtant.

The Nith is the boundary between Dumfries-ſhire and Galloway. The country immediately beyond the river is ſtill in a fine ſtate of cultivation. Its face is diverſified by ſoftly ſwelling knolls, level holms, villas, farm-houſes, and cottages, open lawns, and wooded declivities. The farm-houſes appear not to be, all, the moſt commodious imaginable. But, the villas with grounds laid out around them, in the ſtyle of, Engliſh gardening,—are very numerous. Dumfries, and its immediate vicinity was the ſeat of the Maxwells, at a period when this ancient family was almoſt the moſt conſiderable in the South-weſt of Scotland. And the cadets and dependents of the family were then ſettled in conſiderable numbers in the neighbourhood. Thus was the diſtrict pareelled out into many little eſtates; and many houſes for the reſidence of gentlemen's families were built upon theſe. Several of theſe little eſtates have

by

by this time gone from the original proprietors. But having been once ſeparated, they have not been again accumulated together. New houſes have been built on them, or the old houſes repaired ſo as ſtill to afford accommodation to the proprietors.—— Hence, and not on account of the vicinity of the town, the number of handſome houſes and genteel families around Dumfries.

The road leading from Dumfries up through Galloway, recedes, as it advances, ſtill farther and farther from the ſea-coaſt. For ſome ſhort way even the diſtant proſpect towards the ſea, is rich and beautiful. At length, it is interrupted by rocky and heath-covered hills. The elegant agriculture in the immediate neighbourhood of that city ſoon declines. The green hedges give place to low, ſlender, and ill-built walls of dry ſtones. The cornfields become leſs extenſive, leſs numerous, and more irregular. You begin to perceive that you are advancing into a country into which cultivation has hardly made its way before you.

At the diſtance of four miles from Dumfries, the highway touches upon a corner of Lochrutton, a lake which would adorn the adjoining country if its borders were leſs bare, and its environs more highly

cultivated. Even at preſent, its effect is not unpleaſing*.

Barnbaghle riſes with a very ſlow aſcent, and to a conſiderable elevation. From its ſummit over which the road nearly leads, the traveller enjoys an extenſive proſpect, partly of the country through which he has paſſed, partly of that which he is entering. Cultivation begins to creep ſlowly up the ſouthern ſide of this hill. The ſoil has ſufficient depth and natural fertility. The declivity is gentle enough to afford the eaſieſt acceſs to the plough. The farmers begin to be ſufficiently ſenſible of the ſuperior advantages of agriculture. Means of improvement are not wanting. I would willingly hope therefore, that all this tract of country which the eye commands from this height, may within a very few years, be ſeen to wear an aſpect much more different than at preſent, from what it muſt have appeared in the days of the ancient Selgovæ.

Even now, however, it muſt be allowed, that wherever wild heathy or rocky hills, or ſluggiſh moraſſes are not interſperſed, agriculture has made conſiderable progreſs through this ſouth eaſtern corner of Galloway. A Mr Currie of Redbank and Mr Maxwell of Cargen were among the firſt who attempted any thing like improved agriculture in the vicinity

* Almoſt immediately ſouth of this lake ſtands the Old Caſtle of *Hills*.

vicinity of Dumfries. Along the ſea-coaſt, abundance of excellent manure, eſpecially for a light ſoil, is found in the ſleech on the ſhore. The ſleech is a mixture of ſhells with earth, and ſand comminuted by attrition. From an hundred to an hundred and twenty tons are, as circumſtances vary, laid to manure an acre. Lime is alſo imported from the oppoſite coaſt of Cumberland in ſufficient abundance. Marle pits have been diſcovered here and there in the plains and moraſſes.

It is on the banks of the Nith, along the ſea-ſhore, through the plains lying among the hills, and on the declivities of theſe hills where they are leaſt rugged, and riſe with the gentleſt aſcent, —that the labours and improvements of agriculture have been here proſecuted with ſucceſs. By many of the improvers, a rotation of crops has been judiciouſly adopted, by which the ground is made to yield almoſt conſtant returns, and yet its fertility not exhauſted. Oats; a fallow with ſleech or with lime; wheat; barley with graſs-ſeeds; clover-hay; —Such is the round of crops and of manure and pulverization by which, in a ſeries of five ſucceſſive years, ſome of the moſt intelligent huſbandmen in theſe parts, cultivate the natural fertility of their grounds. By others, this ſeries is varied by the raiſing of potatoes, turnips, kail, and cabbages.

WHEREVER theſe improvements in agriculture have been proſecuted, one capital object with the farmer has commonly been to provide for the feeding and fattening of black cattle. For this purpoſe, have fields poſſeſſing a rich ſward of natural graſs, been incloſed, and excluſively appropriated for paſture. Foreign graſſes have been for the ſame ends induſtriouſly introduced and cultivated for paſture, and for dry forage. Turnips, cabbage, and green kail have with the ſame views, been all entered among the articles of crop. The cattle which are fattened in theſe parts, and upon ſuch articles are partly ſent to England for ſale, and partly diſpoſed of to butchers from the adjacent towns. They are of a great variety of races; the native breed of Galloway having been often croſſed by mixtures from different counties in England and from Ireland. But a ſmall proportion of the cattle fed in this part of Galloway are reared here from calves. They are commonly purchaſed from the interior parts of the country, where the only labours of farming are the rearing of ſheep and black cattle. With black-cattle, a few ſheep for domeſtic uſe, and for the butchers in the immediate neighbourhood, are occaſionally fattened by ſome of thoſe farmers. But theſe begin to be more and more diſliked; they are hoſtile to green fences, and are much more vicious and unmanageable then bullocks, cows, and

and heifers. A breed of large Engliſh ſheep, white-faced, and bearing excellent wool have been introduced into the ſouthern parts of Galloway. They are ſold when fattened, at a price between one and two guineas. Their fleſh is leſs delicate in its flavour and reliſh, than that of the ſmall, ancient Galloway breed. Their wool is commonly intermixed with no inconſiderable proportion of dry hair.—Let me not neglect to obſerve, that the agricultural improvements above-mentionted, have been tried only by a few enlightened and public-ſpirited gentlemen, reſiding on their eſtates, and by ſome of the more opulent farmers guided and encouraged by their example. The other huſbandmen may have, indeed availed themſelves of the uſe of the manures; but they have ſcorned to follow the rotation of crops. Their principle of huſbandry is to raiſe crop after crop of oats upon their fields, till both the fertility of the ground and the ſtrength of the manure are exhauſted; after which, they are obliged to leave it long to reſt. Low-ſtone walls are the common fences, and very little wood is ſpread over the face of the country.

At a ſmall diſtance ſouthward from the foot of Barnbaghle hill is a mineral ſpring, of a chalybeate character, known by the name of *Merkland*-well. It was once the Spa of Kirkcudbright-ſhire; but ſince

ſince firſt the ſulphurated and chalybeate waters of Moffat, and afterwards the mineral waters in the northern counties of England,—have riſen into repute;—the Merkland-well has been leſs frequented. Its water is eſteemed an effectual remedy in agues, ſtomachic complaints, and nervous diſorders of all kinds. It is light, diuretic, and an excellent reſtorer of the appetite.

THESE parts of Kirkcudbright ſhire exhibit few certain veſtiges of very remote times. Hardly any traces of the ancient Roman dominion can now be diſcovered over them. Of the *Selgovæ*, that tribe of the ancient Britons whom the Roman writers repreſent as ſituate here, between the *Brigantes*, to the South, and the *Novantæ* to the North and South-weſt, there may be ſome more certain remains. To thoſe are the barrows and circles of grey ſtones moſt probably to be referred. In an age ignorant of architecture, the memory of the dead can be preſerved only by the ſong, or by piles of earth or ſtones, raiſed over his buried body. The circles of ſtones may have been erected either for the purpoſes of civil or of religious aſſemblies by a ſimple people who had not yet learned to build magnificent temples or ſenate-houſes. However, it is commonly religion that firſt teaches rude tribes any thing like form or order, and ſince temples are commonly the earlieſt

works

works of riſing architecture, I ſhould ſuppoſe the circles of ſtones to have been in their original formation, ſacred to the ſuperſtition of our forefathers. As to their being *Druidical*, of this I am leſs inclined to ſpeak poſitively. Concerning the Druids we have been amuſed with greatly too much profound nonſenſe, and viſionary conjecture. We have little real evidence to enable us to ſay, that the Druids of Cæſar and other Roman authors are certainly the ſame with the miniſters of thoſe rude ceremonies to which theſe circles refer. It is certain, that thoſe circles of ſtones are not peculiar to thoſe parts which are ſuppoſed to have been occupied by the ancient Celts, but entered alſo into the ſuperſtition of the Scandinavians. And if our Britiſh Druids performed their orgies in the ſolemn retirement of groves; ſo alſo did the prieſts of almoſt all the nations of antiquity, till after the progreſs of arts and of civility had ſoftened the character of their ſuperſtition, and had ſupplied them with temples and altars. Be this as it may; theſe are the only remains in theſe parts, which can be, with confidence, aſcribed to the ancient Britons. In this neighbourhood, is a circle of nine grey ſtones, not leſs than five hundred feet in circumference, and in an elevated ſituation. Similar circles, various in extent, are conſiderably numerous through all this country; nor are the barrows and artificial mounts leſs ſo.

It is well known, that the Pictiſh invaders of this part of the Roman province of Valentia, were repulſed or ſubdued by the *Anglo-Saxons*, who under *Ida* founded the kingdom of *Bernicia* or Northumberland, in the 547th year of the Chriſtian æra. Dumfries-ſhire, and the ſouth-weſt of Galloway, with ſome part of Ayrſhire remained in the poſſeſſion of the Anglo-Saxons, till the end of the eighth century. I am inclined to think, that in the names of places, and in the dialect of the country, I can yet diſcover ſome memorials of the Anglo-Saxons. Through all the Southweſt of Kirkcudbright-ſhire, and for the length of fifteen or ſixteen miles inwards from the ſea-coaſt, Ingles-Ton occurs frequently as the name of a place. Some worthy Antiquarian whoſe name I cannot, at preſent recollect, has ingeniouſly conjectured,--that theſe Ingles-tons were places where our fore-fathers had been accuſtomed to kindle fires, to alarm the country in caſes of danger from the approach of foes: *Ingle* ſignifying in the ordinary dialect of Scotland---fire; and no phraſe being more frequent or familiar than *Ingleſide*. I venerate the ingenuity of the Etymologiſt who has ſuggeſted this hypotheſis. Yet, with due deference to his authority, I am rather tempted to ſuppoſe that theſe *Ingles-tons* are ſo many ſtations which were occupied by the *Angles* or *Anglo-Saxons* of Northumberland, when maſters of this part of Galloway. In the end

of

of the eighth century theſe were ſubdued by the Picts; after having under *Edwin* their ſixth monarch, extended their ſway over the whole of Galloway and Ayr-ſhire, and even to the *Hebudæ*. If not abſolutely exterminated by their Pictiſh conquerors, the *Angles* might poſſibly continue to occupy theſe places which are ſtill diſtinguiſhed by their names. Their dwellings would in this caſe naturally receive from their Pictiſh lords, the names of *Angles-towns*. In this idea, I am even inclined to fancy, that a minutely accurate enquirer who ſhould carefully examine within what limits, this name, *Ingleſtone* is confined, might thus aſcertain the particular extent of the ancient Northumbrian monarchy, upon this ſide. Although the *Angles* may have been finally exterminated or expelled from theſe parts by their Pictiſh conquerors; yet would the new poſſeſſors naturally continue to diſcriminate by their names, the habitations and eſtabliſhments which they had occupied. Other places through this part of Galloway likewiſe retain Saxon names; although it muſt indeed be confeſſed, that through all this diſtrict, thoſe names which are the moſt permanent, the names of rivers, hills and vales, are undeniably in ſome dialect or other of the ancient Celtic.—The ordinary dialect of this part of Galloway is another proof of its having been anciently in the occupancy of the Anglo-Saxons. It may indeed be *daſhed* with

a ſmall intermixture of Daniſh. It differs remarkably from the dialect ſpoken in the ſhires of Renfrew and Dumbarton, which I ſuppoſe ſtill to retain a mixture of the ancient Britiſh. Of the names of points, promontories, creeks, rocks and bays along the coaſt of Galloway, I believe many to be Daniſh; *Southwick*, *Kerwick*, *Rhoſs*, *Sandwick*, *Alnwath*, with many others. To the intermixture of the *Daniſh* or *Norſe*, do I attribute the great abundance of broad, open ſounds, obſervable in the dialect of the inhabitants of the ſouthern parts of Galloway. Here too, are many other names of places, evidently Saxon. Of theſe that which moſt frequently occurs, is *Borland*. Wherever there is an *Engleſtown*, there is always a *Borland* in the near neighbourhood. Now, if we ſhould ſuppoſe this *Borland* to be compounded of the two well known Saxon words *Boor* and *Land*; this will ſuggeſt the conjecture, that theſe *Borlands* might be ſo named by the Anglo-Saxons, as having been occupied by the *villains* or *vaſſals* of the martial lords who were ſeated in the *Engleſtons*.---(other Saxon names are *Greenlaw*, *Carlinwark*, *Tungland*, *Twynholm*, *Carleton*.) This idea concerning the circumſtances connected with the origin of the term *Borland* is ſtrongly confirmed by what is related concerning the plan upon which the Saxon landholders uſed to parcel out their grounds. A Saxon eſtate

was

was ufually divided into two parts, the *inland* and the *outland*. The former was referved by the proprietor for the maintenance of his family, and was cultivated by his ſlaves or bondmen; while he himſelf either lived in ſavage idleneſs, or was engaged in military enterprizes. The other part was either granted to ſome military companion or dependent, to be held by him for the performanee of certain ſerviees;—or was let to tenants, named *churls* or *cæorls*. And, as I ſuppoſe the plaees diſtinguiſhed by the name *Borland* to have been oecupied by boors or bondmen, employed in farm-ſervice, in the Anglo-Saxon period of the hiſtory of Galloway: So am I alſo inclined to conſider thoſe places, the names of which are compounded with the word *cæorl* or *churl* to have been farms let in thoſe days, to tenants.

It ſeems probable too, that the moſt conieal of the *moats* or *tumuli* in this part of Galloway are equally to be referred to the Saxon times. Of the remains of encampments,—and there are ſeveral,—in this part of Galloway, thoſe may be inferred to have been Saxon, which are of oval form, or of an oblong ſquare, rounded at the angles. As to *houſes;* ſome remains of the Saxon faſhion of architecture may yet be traced into thoſe plaees of Kircudbrightſhire which are moſt remote from improvement,—

in the interior partitions, formed of wattles, and plaiſtered on both ſides with clay. I believe that that the Saxons were the firſt who introduced this mode of building into Britain. Their ordinary houſes being of this ſtructure. Even their more conſiderable edifices were only dry ſtone walls, ſupported by parallel walls of turf or clay on each. In *Dornock*, on the border of *Cumberland*, all the peaſants' houſes are ſtill built in the ancient Saxon faſhion.

THE Saxons were ſkilled in weaving *linen-cloth*; and I fancy that we are indebted to them for the uſe of *ſhirts*.

SUCH are the remains of Saxon hiſtory and manners, connected with the antiquities of the South-eaſtern parts of Kirkcudbright-ſhire. The buildings of the Saxons have not been here much more permanent than thoſe of their Britiſh predeceſſors.—The memory of the *Selgovæ* is here preſerved by the circles of grey ſtones, and by the barrows which are here and there to be met with; the names of the rivers and mountains, too, thoſe which are permanent above all other names of place appear to have been improved by them. Their Saxon ſucceſſors appear not to have raiſed many more durable monuments.

THE

THE next in antiquity of the artificial curioſities of this part of the country are the remains of old military caſtles and of religious houſes. Theſe are, for the extent of the country conſiderably numerous. They are of various forms, and in various ſtates of preſervation. Some of the caſtles may have been built by the old *Pictiſh* or Gaelic Lords of Galloway. The reſt we no doubt owe to the progreſs of Roman arts and manners.—Of all the ancient inhabitants of Europe, I know not, that any except the *Romans*, and the *Moors* of *Spain* had any knowledge of the art of building with ſtone and lime. From theſe the rude anceſtors of the preſent inhabitants learned all that they ever knew of building with ſolidity. Their buildings are all therefore either in the Roman faſhion corrupted by their incapacity of perfect,—or by their fantaſtic ideas of beauty, ſtrength, and utility;—or in the Mooriſh faſhion altered in the ſame manner;—or in a ſtyle compounded of the Roman, the Mooriſh, the Teutonic, and the Celtic. Kirkcudbright-ſhire affords the remains of the two ancient abbies of DUNDRENNAN; and SWEETHEART or NEW-ABBEY; the former founded by one of the old Pictiſh Lords of Galloway into whoſe poſſeſſion it came, upon the ruin of the Northumbrian monarchy; the other founded by *Dervorgilla* daughter and co-heireſs to the laſt of thoſe lords. I ſuppoſe *New-abbey* to have received

received this name in reference to the abbey of Dundrennan founded prior to it. The caſtle of *Buittle*, and another within a lake, named *Loch-Fergus* probably belonged to the old Lords of Galloway. Several others appear to have been poſſeſſed by the Douglaſſes, the Herreiſes, the Maxwells. And there are others which have been built by families who ſettled in Galloway at a later period, or were dependents upon thoſe above-named.

It is the common tale of Antiquarians, that the Anglo-Saxon inhabitants of Galloway were ſubdued or expelled by the Picts, in the end of the eighth century. This I am ſtrongly inclined to doubt. That the Picts might penetrate into Galloway, before the arrival of the Saxons in this iſland, about the time when the Romans were obliged to abdicate the dominion, and to deſert the protection of the Britons,—I ſhall allow. They might then eſtabliſh themſelves here. The Saxons do not appear to have ever occupied the inland parts of Galloway. There the Picts might continue in a dubious ſubjection to the Saxons, while the kingdom of Northumberland continued to flouriſh, and the Saxons to occupy the ſea-coaſt. When, by the union of the heptarchy in one kingdom, and afterwards by the Norman conqueſt, the Saxons became unable to ſupport themſelves in Dumfries-ſhire, Galloway,

and

and Ayr-ſhire; the Picts, in the interior parts of this country might then throw off their allegiance, and by ſucceſſive incurſions at length entirely ſubdue and expel their maſters: thus aſſerting to themſelves the ſovereignty of Galloway.---But, one thing which appears to me certain, is, that, if they were Picts who penetrated into Galloway, when the Roman Empire in Britain terminated, thoſe Picts undeniably ſpoke the language of the Celts. The names of places in the interior parts of this country, where not plainly of very modern impoſition, are univerſally Celtic; except the Saxon and Daniſh ſirnames and names of places towards the coaſt; and no ancient names which may not be traced in the Celtic will be found in Galloway. By this I think it certain, that they muſt have been a tribe of free Celts, who invaded Galloway, and made themſelves maſters of it upon the retreat of the Romans. When, in addition to the above circumſtances, I conſider the contiguity of Galloway to Ireland; the probability that there muſt, in the remoteſt times have been a frequent intercourſe between Galloway and Ireland;—and the equal probability, that although within the limits of the Roman province, Galloway was always, in a great meaſure neglected by the Romans;---I am led to infer, that, they who, after the retreat of the Romans, poured in upon the Britons, on this quarter, were rather Celts from Ireland,

Ireland. The name of the country juſtifies the idea of their being *Gaels*; and *Gael*, is only another name for *Celts*, affixed by ſome circumſtances which cannot now be well aſcertained. The old inhabitants of Galloway are in ſome ancient Latin charters named *Galwegenſes*. Now *Galweg* ſurely ſignifies the country of the Gaelts. Thus heedleſs of the doubtful facts related by ſome ancient hiſtorians who had little opportunity to aſcertain the truth of what they related; and of the theories of ſome modern writers, who have built thoſe theories without a knowledge of facts or circumſtances on which to found them; I ſuppoſe all the old inhabitants of Galloway who were not of Romanized Britiſh, of Saxon or of Daniſh origin, to have been---either remains of the inhabitants whom the Romans found here, that had not been fully ſubjected by their arms, or incomers from Ireland. They were long diſtinguiſhed by the name of *the Wild Scots of Galloway*. In the armies, they were remarkable for a ferocity, and for an impetuous, undiſciplined mode of fighting, by which they very nearly reſembled the character of the native Iriſh, ſuch as it is deſcribed to have been, when the Engliſh firſt conquered Ireland.

I HAVE introduced theſe remarks here, that they may ſerve as a ſort of theory to which I may refer local facts in my progreſs through Galloway.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT-SHIRE lies under ſome diſadvantages, to which Ayr-ſhire and Dumfries-ſhire are not ſubject. It has neither lime, coal, nor free-ſtone. It is true, that lime-ſtone has been found in theſe ſouth-eaſtern parts of Galloway. But, either from its peculiar nature, or for want of proper fuel, attempts to burn it, have failed of reducing it to calx. Marle, however, a calcareous manure formed from ſhells, but having ſomething fœtid and oily in its character which lime wants, has been found in great abundance through theſe lower parts of Galloway. For pit-coal here is no ſubſtitute but peat.

To *Milton*, the road by which I travelled from Dumfries, is part of the great highway between London and Portpatrick. At Milton, we turned off the highway, and proceeded through bye-roads, in a north-weſt direction, to Kirkpatrick kirk. The highway ſeems here to be in ſome ſort, the line of demarcation dividing cultivation from wildneſs. The houſe of Milton, indeed, ſtanding on the upper ſide of the highway, with ſome little plantations about it, and the village of the ſame name, below, have an agreeable aſpect. But, no ſooner

have you paſſed theſe, than a black heath, diverſified by a moraſs and a ſmall lake, opens to view, on one hand,—and on the other riſing grounds, green but bare and uncultivated,—or where cultivated, deformed by a ragged, careleſs, cultivation. Low ſtone dykes are the only fences dividing the fields; and theſe are often ſo very low, ſo careleſsly built, and ſo broken down, that the moſt ſluggiſh and feeble of feeble, ſluggiſh animals might eaſily make its way over them. Nearer the ſea-coaſt, by the importation of lime, and by the digging up of marle, the improveable lands have received more or leſs improvement. Here marle has not been found, and lime cannot be obtained unleſs at a price greater than unſkilful huſbandmen, novices in the labours of agriculture dare venture to pay.

The ſale of the ſheep and the black-cattle which they rear and feed—enables the farmers to pay their rents, and maintain their families. But, theſe places ſeem to be exactly in that ſtate, in which induſtry and population are the moſt likely to remain long without improvement. Neither agriculture, nor the management of cattle, are exceedingly well underſtood, or practiſed with great enterpriſe. Theſe people ſeem to have no notion that large fortunes are to be acquired by the arts of huſbandry, no leſs than by manufacture or merchandiſe. Manufac-

tures

tures have not been introduced. The rearing of black-cattle and of ſheep are the chief objects to which the farmer directs his care. Theſe people are not in a condition of miſerable poverty. They have the comfortable enjoyment of the neceſſaries and of many of the conveniencies of life. But, their numbers are comparatively few. No one has riſen, by the practice of the employments common in the country, to any conſiderable opulence. And the poor conceive no hopes of the acquiſition of wealth otherwiſe than by emigration.

THERE are two or three means that may be employed for improving the face of this country, and rouſing the people to induſtry by intelligent and public-ſpirited landholders. They have already begun to improve the pariſh-roads with great aſſiduity. Let them perſiſt, till the whole country is made ſufficiently open to foot, horſe, and carriage.—The next thing for them to do, is, that each cultivate a little domain of his own, and content himſelf with being rather a loſer, than a gainer in the management,—provided only, that he can here exhibit ſuch improvements as it may be advantageous for his tenants and dependents to become acquainted with.—In the third place, I ſhould think that every intelligent landholder might let his lands under conditions, which might contribute greatly to improve

the practice of farming upon his eſtate. And laſtly, let landholders in theſe parts try, by all means, to allure manufacturers to form little eſtabliſhments among them in ſituations favourable for manufacture.

Reflections and ſuggeſtions, ſuch as theſe, every traveller through theſe parts of Scotland may find frequent occaſion to throw out. Compared with the richer and more populous counties of England, or even with thoſe parts of Scotland where manufactures have been eſtabliſhed and agricultural improvements diligently purſued,—Galloway *may* ſeem much behind in population and in enlightened induſtry. But in a compariſon with moſt countries on the continent of Europe, it will have the advantage. The vaſt empire of Ruſſia is yet a wilderneſs, with only ſome ſpots of cultivation, and ſome ſlender companies of inhabitants ſcattered here and there over it. The labour of the mines is the principal branch of induſtry proſecuted in Sweden; and this is an employment ſo little lucrative—for the moſt part,—ſo unhealthy, and ſo uncomfortable, that the inhabitants of that country in which the working of mines—is—the ſpecies of induſtry chiefly cultivated, can never be in a very thriving condition, or very numerous. As little can be ſaid for the cultivation of Denmark or of Poland.—It is indeed

deed well known that our chief imports from the North of Europe are *timber* and other *raw materials*. But, no country, of which the inhabitants are in proportion to its extent numerous, and in which the arts are induſtriouſly and ingeniouſly cultivated, will export its productions in a *raw, unwrought ſtate*. It is therefore clear from the nature of their trade, that the kingdoms in the North of Europe are in no high ſtate of internal cultivation and population. The deſarts in Spain;—the annual emigration of the flocks of the Spaniſh ſhepherds with their flocks, over a wide extent of country, from one province to another;—the exportation of unwrought wool and ſilk, as the principal commodities of domeſtic production which Spain has to export;—and the numbers of the robbers and gypſies in that kingdom, ſhew its induſtry and population to be in no enviable ſtate. France, even before its late diſtreſſes, was confeſſedly leſs populous in proportion to its extent than Great Britain, and its people poorer than the inhabitants of Scotland or England. Germany is under all the diſadvantages of France, and wants, at the ſame time, many of the advantages which it poſſeſſes. Although we ſhould not believe more than one-half of what travellers tell us; we ſhould however find no reaſon to envy the Italians, in the preſent condition of their country.—Even here, then, where the country is ſo bare,—where agriculture

agriculture is ſo careleſs and imperfect,---where induſtry is ſo languid; I am perſuaded that Scotland ſhews the labouring part of the community in a better condition than we ſhould find them any where upon the Continent of Europe. How great! how happy then ſhall we be, when all our latent *capabilities* of improvement ſhall be fully unfolded, and brought into exertion?

As we drew nearer to Kirkpatrick Kirk, we entered upon better roads. Roads have been formed in various directions through this neighbourhood. But, the ſoil being ſoft and deep; gravel being perhaps not to be readily obtained; the workmen being lazy or unſkilful; or the ſuperintendents of theſe works driving too hard bargains with the workmen;—Theſe roads are univerſally miry and unſolid; more like looſe earth, haſtily turned up with the ſpade, than like a compact ſtratum deſigned to reſiſt the impreſſions of the weather, and the preſſure alike of feet and of carriages of all ſorts. I cannot hope, that if a new influx of barbarians ſhould ever again deſolate Europe,—ſuch roads as theſe, would, like the Roman highways, remain the moſt permanent of all monuments to teſtify to future times the ingenious induſtry of the people by whom they were formed.

Kirkpatrick

Kirkpatrick occurs as the name of a Scotch pariſh oftener, than any other name. That which I had now entered, was *Kirkpatrick-Durham*. There are, beſides, Old Kirkpatrick; Kirkpatrick-Fleming; Kirkpatrick-Juxta; Kirkpatrick-gray; and perhaps other Kirkpatricks unknown to me. All theſe pariſhes have been ſo named in honour of St Patrick, the patron ſaint of Ireland, by whoſe miniſtration the Iriſh were firſt converted to Chriſtianity. St Patrick was a Briton, a native of the pariſh of Old Kirkpatrick in Dumbarton-ſhire. He ſeems to have preached in many places in the ſouth-weſt of Scotland. He paſſed at length into Ireland,—by Portpatrick moſt probably, which ſtill bears his name. By the converſion of the Iriſh, he became eminent in the Romiſh Church. In veneration for his ſaintly memory were all theſe churches in Scotland which ſtill bear his name, conſecrated to him, as their patron and protector.

The face of the country in the pariſh belonging to this church is, for the greater part, heathy. The farms are divided by low, and inſufficient ſtone dykes. The ſouthern parts of this tract begin to be incloſed and cultivated. The northern parts are occupied as paſture-grounds for ſheep and black-cattle. The average rent of theſe latter grounds is not more than two ſhillings an acre. On theſe, as on almoſt

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all other unimproved paſture-lands, the ſheep and black-cattle are bred and reared to full growth, but ſeldom fattened. The farm-houſes, are, in general, very mean and incommodious: the walls low and ill-built,—the covering of the roof, broom, ſtraw, or fens. Potatoes are very generally raiſed, and in large quantities, here, as in moſt other parts in Scotland.——If Sir Walter Raleigh did indeed introduce the potatoe from America, and plant it on his eſtates in Ireland, for the firſt time of its being known, or planted in theſe iſlands;—he muſt be acknowledged to have performed, in this, a more beneficial ſervice to his country, than if he had ſucceeded in the diſcovery of gold mines in Guiana. The overflowing population of Ireland has been chiefly encouraged and ſupported by the uſe of potatoes. Since potatoes were, within the preſent century introduced into Scotland, the fare of the common people has been greatly bettered. Almoſt every variety of ſoil and climate known in this iſland favours the growth of potatoes. No proceſs of agriculture contributes more to the enriching and pulverization of the ground, than the dunging, digging, weeding, and ploughing neceſſary in raiſing potatoes. They form a moſt nutritious article of food to men, acceptable at almoſt all tables. They are no leſs uſeful for the nouriſhing and fattening of domeſtic animals of all kinds. Swine particularly

ly thrive and fatten moſt rapidly, when fed upon potatoes, with a ſmall mixture of corn. Cows yield great abundance of milk, when fed upon potatoes. Potatoes afford a ſpirit, by diſtillation. They may be manufactured, with great advantage into ſtarch.

THE progreſs of agriculture has been, in theſe parts of Galloway, conſiderably checked by *thirlage* to certain milns. The nature of this thirlage is, to oblige the poſſeſſors of certain farms to pay to the occupant of the particular miln to which his farm is *thirled*, a certain proportion of all his grain,—except what may be requiſite for ſeed and for horſe-corn. When milns were firſt erected in this country, the erection of the miln, and the eſtabliſhment of a miller might be ſo expenſive, as to render this thirlage neceſſary. Agriculture was in thoſe days, little purſued: No farmer thought of raiſing more grain than was neceſſary for the uſe of his family, and the payment of ſuch rent, as he was obliged to pay in grain. All the corn, therefore, which was produced in the country, except that conſumed by horſes, or reſerved for ſeed, was to be made into meal, where it had been raiſed. The management of milns being then a more complex taſk, and leſs generally underſtood, than at preſent, was, by conſequence, to be paid for at a higher rate. In theſe circumſtances, nothing could be more natural than to en-

ſure to certain milns, the cuſtom of certain lands. When a landholder erected a miln on his eſtate, he by a deed of *thirlage*, ſuitable to the feudal ideas of the age, irrevocably ſettled upon it certain ſervitudes, and a certain income by which it might be maintained. Theſe eſtabliſhments were undoubtedly of great benefit to the whole country at the time of their inſtitution; contributing to improve the diet and the modes of life connected with it. But, in the advancement of that progreſs of improvement to which they contributed, they have, at length ceaſed to be neceſſary, and have become burthenſome. The agriculture of the country has become ſo much more conſiderable, that milns can now be ſupported, wherever they are neceſſary, without monopoly or feudal ſervitude. To be obliged to employ a miller who is diſliked, or who has indifferent apparatus about his miln, or is ill-ſkilled in his buſineſs, appears an intolerable grievance to the farmer. And ſtill worſe does he think it, to be compelled to pay a mulcture which is much more than an adequate reward for the labour by which it is earned; and to be obliged to pay for the grinding of corn which he perhaps finds it more advantageous to ſell without making it into meal.—I ſhould think, that this obſtacle to the improvement of agriculture might be eaſily removed by a regulation enjoining the proprietor of every miln, to ſell

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his rights of thirlage, for a regulated price, at the demand of the proprietors of the lands reſpectively burthened with them.

POPULATION has been augmenting, for ſome time, in this neighbourhood. The enlightened ideas adopted by ſome of the landholders have been the chief cauſes of this progreſs.—Roads have been formed, to open up an intercourſe between the different parts of the country. The lands have been ſubdivided and incloſed. The attention of the farmers has been directed more than formerly, to agriculture. Dr Lamont, the preſent clergyman of Kirkpatrick-Durham, being at the ſame time proprietor of conſiderable land property in the neighbourhood, has, with great ingenuity, ſpirit, and ſucceſs, laboured to improve his own fortune, and to ſet a laudable example to the other landholders in the neighbourhood. He has ſubdivided his lands into ſmall poſſeſſions. Within theſe eight or ten years, a village conſiſting of from fifty to an hundred families, has been raiſed in the neighbourhood of the church. By his exertions, a company have been engaged to begin the eſtabliſhment of a cotton manufactory, upon a joint ſtock. Another company have, equally under his direction, begun a ſmall woollen manufactory. Another company have been perſuaded to form a ſmall ſtock for the

eſtabliſhment of a warehouſe, to ſupply the neighbourhood with thoſe grocery goods, and other wares which are, of neceſſity, to be imported into ſuch a country as this. As the labourers in Manufactures are, for the moſt part, little capable of regular frugality, but after earning and ſpending liberal wages, are often helpleſsly indigent, in the caſe of diſeaſe, or infirm old age:—Dr Lamont, therefore, not ſatisfied with merely bringing people of this claſs together, into the village, and finding them employment, has alſo ſuggeſted a ſcheme to cheat them into œconomy. A SYMPATHETIC SOCIETY has, under his auſpices, been lately formed here. The members being chiefly labourers, and perſons deſiring to encourage a ſcheme which has been contrived for their benefit, contribute at admiſſion, two ſhillings and ſix-pence each, to a common fund, and in addition to this, ſix-pence a month, ever after. Out of the ſtock thus formed, the occaſional neceſſities of any of the members who may be reduced to want are ſupplied, by fixed regulations through the hands of office-bearers appointed to its management. The careleſs are thus taught to practiſe œconomy both for themſelves and for their neighbours: And want is relieved, without the humiliation of beggary. To give gaiety to a place where pains have been taken to eſtabliſh induſtry,—and to allure the inhabitants of the environs

to

to reſort hither as to a ſcene of amuſement, and of trade; a fair,—I believe, of old inſtitution,—has been encouraged here; and races have been eſtabliſhed, as accompaniments to the fair. This fair and the races take place on the laſt Thurſday of March, annually. The races, with the fair, draw numbers together. The villagers are enriched by the money ſpent on the occaſion. And the neighbouring farmers are gratified by an opportunity of enjoying, on a ſmall ſcale, the ſame amuſements of which the Great and the Faſhionable are moſt paſſionately fond.

I WOULD not willingly diſapprove of any thing having a tendency to promote induſtry. Yet, I would not have the numbers of the people increaſed, their induſtry quickened, or their enjoyments multiplied, at the expence of their virtue. For this reaſon, chiefly, would I incline to diſcourage the extenſion of our larger manufacturing towns. Crowded together, and continually ſupplied with money, the workmen, in thoſe towns, hold an almoſt perpetual holiday. This frequency of convivial and ſenſual enjoyments render them incapable of frugality, or temperance. They become, by conſequence, extravagant, debauched, idle, and knaviſh. They waſte the earnings of their labour, even before they are earned. Their health and ſtrength are equally waſted.

waſted. What are our greateſt feats of manufacturing induſtry, but ſo many ſinks where virtue is corrupted, and population waſted?——Now, it is upon theſe views, that I ſhould perhaps preſume to diſapprove of all attempts to promote the apparent and temporary proſperity of any country by making it a ſcene of ruſtic feſtivity. Villagers who have learned to depend upon the profits of a market, a fair, or a race for a conſiderable part of their livelihood, are thus irreſiſtibly, more or leſs, inclined to idleneſs at other times. Their manners acquire a tone of indolence and of rude debauchery. Manufactures can never thrive among them. They become ſchools of diſſipation to the peaſantry of the circumjacent country. This effect is not diſcerned in its commencement. The miſchief is commonly done, before the agency producing it, can be noticed. Market-days, and markets are uſeful and neceſſary. But, races, cock-fightings, and feſtive meetings for the purpoſe ſolely of feſtivity, ought to be carefully diſcouraged, wherever induſtry and virtue are to be cheriſhed.

It is pleaſing to view, and to exhibit a clergyman of the church of Scotland, in the reſpectable light of a leader in beneficial improvements, and an active promoter of virtuous induſtry among his pariſhioners and neighbours. Next after diſcharging

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aſſiduouſly the functions of his office, and ſetting an example of decorous manners; a Clergyman can do nothing worthier than this, of the clerical character, or more honourable in the ſight of both God and man.—Thus has Dr Lamont gained the affection and the eſteem of all who witneſs his generous and enlightened exertions. And the eſtabliſhments under his influence are likely to preſerve his memory in a country which he labours to awaken to virtuous induſtry.

From KIRKPATRICK-DURHAM *to* NEW-GALLOWAY.

AFTER ſpending a day at the manſe of Kirkpatrick-Durham, I continued my journey towards New-Galloway. A tolerably good pariſh-road leads from Kirkpatrick-Kirk to the Bridge of Orr. In this vicinity are various remains of circular walls, and mounds, which undoubtedly mark the ſituations of Saxon or Daniſh ſtations or encampments. The Daniſh are now ſcarcely to be any where diſtinguiſhed from the remains of Saxon camps. Both are round, and have ſimilar ditches and earthen walls ſurrounding them. The coaſts of all Galloway were not only occupied by the Saxons, but alſo infeſted by the piratical Danes. Hence it is impoſſible to decide, without more accurate inveſtigation of theſe

matters,

matters, than I have yet had in my power, which of theſe remains of military ſtations are Daniſh,---and which Saxon.——

I WAS ſoon upon the banks of the *water of Orr*. This river takes its riſe out of *Loch-Urr*, or *Orr*; a lake ſituate at the diſtance of ten or twelve miles farther up the country; about three miles in circumference; and bounded by the three pariſhes of Glencairn, Dunſcore, and Balmaclellan.---This lake ſeems to be the *Lough-Cure* of *Camden*, from which he erroneouſly repreſents the *Nith* as iſſuing, and on which he relates that the *Selgovæ* had a town called, by the Romans, *Corda*. This lake is, at its greateſt depth, nine fathoms. It has, within it a ſmall iſland, on which are yet to be ſeen the ruins of an ancient caſtle. On this ſite perhaps might the huts of the *Selgovæ* ſtand. The iſle is now frequented by water-fowls: and eagles have been known to breed on it. Pikes and trouts; both ſpecies often very large;---are the only fiſhes which it produces.

IN the environs of this lake are *Yarborough Bow-Butts*, where in the days, when all were warriours, and the arrow the chief miſſile weapon, the old inhabitants of that neighbourhood are ſuppoſed to have exerciſed themſelves in ſhooting the bow.

THE

THE *Urr* thus iſſuing from the lake of the ſame name, holds its courſe, for a number of miles, through a wild tract of country, and over an irregular channel. As it advances, its ſtream is increaſed by the acceſſion of various rivulets. It begins, at length, to ſhew ſome ſtripes of level and fertile ground upon its banks. It becomes the boundary between the two pariſhes of Croſs-michael and Kirkpatrick-Durham. As theſe terminate, *Buittle* commences on the one ſide, and *Urr* upon the other. The country becomes more level, on either hand, and diſplays greater cultivation, as the river advances. By the time of its reaching *Dalbeattie*, it has increaſed to a very conſiderable ſtream. A few miles below this laſt place, it diſcharges its waters into the *Solway Firth*; affording an inlet to the tide; and a ſort of road where veſſels in the coaſting trade enter. Theſe veſſels bring chiefly lime and coals from the coaſts of Cumberland. Grain and potatoes are the articles which they export.

AT *Dalbeattie*, are mills, and a ſmall village which ſeems thriving. It is indeed rather ſurpriſing, that, a ſituation ſo favourable has not before this time, been occupied by a town or village of conſiderable magnitude. But, the inland country was formerly ſhut up. Its cattle and ſheep were not articles for exportation by ſea. What imports the country required,

quired, were introduced by the way of Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, or Wigton. Roads have been formed which eſtabliſh a communication between the foot of this river, and the more adjacent parts of the interior country. The lime imported, has already been laid in great abundance upon the lands. The quantities of grain for exportation increaſe. And, if ſome ſuitable manufacture could be eſtabliſhed at Dalbeattie, I ſhould expect to ſee it riſe to rival the moſt conſiderable towns in this part of Galloway.

The banks of this river are not deſtitute of natural beauties, and artificial decorations. At the bridge by which I paſſed are a few cottages with a dyeing houſe and a corn-mill, ſituate low upon the banks of the river, while the adjoining grounds riſe, with with ſomewhat of an abrupt elevation, almoſt immediately above them, ſo as to produce with the aid of the bridge, the highway, and ſome trees and wild ſhrubbery, a ſufficiently pictureſque effect. From this ſituation, nearly to the mouth of the river, the lands are on both ſides, cultivated, and rudely incloſed. The ſtream is here and there ſcantily ſhaded with wood. The hills riſe to no great elevation, and are, all over arable. The vales are commonly covered with a rich ſward of natural graſs. A moraſs of no great extent, now and then intervenes.

Some

Some miles below the upper bridge is another on the great road between Dumfries and Portpatrick; the haugh bridge. An eſtate bordering here, upon the river, was not many years ſince purchaſed by a Mr *Herries* of London, who has ſince built an handſome houſe, near the bridge, which he now, chiefly inhabits. The *Herrieſes* were one of the firſt Norman families,—for I take them to have been Norman,—who obtained poſſeſſions in this part of Galloway. Towards the end of the fifteenth century, the family of Maxwell acquired their eſtates and honours, by the marriage of the then Lord *Maxwell*, with the heireſs of the laſt Lord *Herries*. Many families of this name are ſtill ſcattered through the ſouth-eaſtern parts of Kirkcudbright-ſhire. Mr Herries whom I have here mentioned as lately ſettled in this neighbourhood, is, I believe, originally from Galloway. And it would be not unpleaſing if others of the ſame name, like him, acquiring fortunes, ſhould reſtore the honours of their name in Kirkcudbright-ſhire.

Of the family of Maxwell, many more deſcendents, and thoſe in the higher ranks of life, remain in this country. Several miles below the *Haugh* ſtands the houſe of *Munchefs*, the ſeat of Mr Maxwell, a very amiable, Roman Catholic gentleman. He is proprietor of an extenſive eſtate in that neigh-

bourhood. Adjoining to his houſe are conſiderable plantations,—chiefly of pines. Some of the lands lying on the *Urr* are, in a fine ſtate of cultivation. By the influence perhaps of this family, Roman Catholics are more numerous in that neighbourhood than in the reſt of Kirkcudbright-ſhire.

OPPOSITE to *Munchefs*, upon the weſtern ſide of the *Urr* ſtands the old caſtle of *Buittle*, ſaid to have been originally a caſtle poſſeſſed by the ancient Lords of Galloway. It came, by marriage, into the poſſeſſion of John Baliol, who was for ſome time king of Scotland. It fell, afterwards into the hands of the Douglaſſes.——

SINCE the hiſtory of the ancient Lords of Galloway is ſo much connected with many of the remains of its ancient buildings; I ſhall here introduce thoſe few facts which I have learned concerning them. I have already ſuggeſted my opinion, that the ancient *Galwegenſes* were not a tribe of Picts; but rather the deſcendents of ſome of the old *Selgovæ* and *Novantes* who had retired before the Romans, to the interior hills, among which we know not that theſe invaders ever penetrated;—reinforced perhaps with occaſional emigrants from Ireland. When the Romans began to withdraw their forces from Britain, thoſe unconquered inhabitants

bitants of the mountains, ruſhed down upon the *Romanized* and ſubjugated Britons. In concert with the Scots and Picts, they advanced rapidly into the ſouthern parts of the iſland. By the Anglo-Saxons, they were driven backward into their former faſtneſſes. Their ſhores were occupied by the invaders. They were divided by the territories of the Britons of Strath-Clyde, from the Scots and the Picts in the more northern parts of the iſland. They might perhaps become dependent upon the Saxons; but ſtill they remained a diſtinct people.

The Scots, in the mean time, ſubdued the Picts. The conquered, incorporated with their conquerors, ceaſed to be named, as a diſtinct people. The Britons of *Strath-Clyde*, as thoſe of *Cumberland*, gradually melted away, before the Saxons and the Scots. The Danes began to invade the coaſts of Britain. The Saxons loſt, by degrees, all their territories in the ſouth of Scotland. The *Galwegenſes* regained poſſeſſion of the whole country, from the confines of Ayrſhire, on the one ſide, to the mountains of Clydeſdale, and the Solway frith upon the other. Intereſted to co-operate with the Scots againſt the Danes and Saxons, they ſoon fell into a ſtate of dependency upon their more powerful allies. Deſcended from the ſame origin, as the Scots, their cuſtoms and manners might have been the ſame; had

had not thoſe of the Scots been greatly altered and improved by their union with the Picts, and their intercourſe with the Saxons. They, now, therefore, appeared a diſtinct people, and might probably be nearly allied in character to their contemporaries in the North of Ireland.

THIS political diſtinction, and this diverſity of character were ſufficient to make them appear in the eyes of thoſe old writers by whom they are mentioned,—a peculiar race. Their ruder manners gained them the appellation of Picts, and the character of being deſcended from the ancient Picts. They had been named by the Saxons, more properly *Gaels*, and their country *Gallwcg* or *Galloway*.

BY the labours of the *Saxon Clergy;* by the intermixture of the Saxons who remained among them, after the limits of the Northumbrian kingdom were contracted; by their ſubjection to the *Saxoniſed* Scots; and by the occaſional invaſions of the Danes; they loſt, by degrees, the uſe of the Celtic language and the peculiarities of their manners. Yet, it ſeems probable, that they retained theſe long after their union with the Scots.

AT what particular period, the petty ſovereigns of Galloway became feudatories to the kings of the Scots,

Scots, cannot now be aſcertained. When the *Galwegians* went out with the Scots, to battle againſt their common enemies, the poſt of honour was uſually aſſigned to the former. A battle was loſt by David the Firſt, by the miſconduct of the *Galwegians* who led the van of his army. In the reign of Malcolm Canmore, in the twelfth century, all Galloway was ſubject to Fergus, perhaps the moſt powerful ſubject then in Scotland. Being afterwards unſucceſsful in a war with his ſovereign, Malcolm IV. he aſſumed the habit of a monk, and ſpent his laſt years in the abbey of Holyrood houſe.——His ſons Uchtred and Gilbert inherited his territories of Galloway and Carrick. By their father's misfortunes, their country had fallen more entirely than before, under the power of the Scottiſh ſovereign. Upon the captivity of William the Lion, they threw off the Scottiſh yoke, and entered into alliance with the Engliſh. Gilbert, by the aid of the Engliſh, ſubdued his brother, and put him to death. Upon the death of Gilbert, however, Roland, the ſon of Uchtred became lord of all Galloway; while the earldom of Carrick was aſſigned to his couſin, Duncan. Alan, ſon of Roland was the laſt of the old Lords of Galloway. Dervigild, his third daughter, marrying John Baliol of Bernard-Caſtle in Yorkſhire, carried the lordſhip of Galloway into that family. Thomas Macduallen, natural ſon of Alan, obtaining the aid

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of the king of the iſle of Man, ſought to poſſeſs himſelf of his father's territories, but was obliged to flee to Ireland.

JOHN BALIOL, the ſon of Dervigild, became in his mother's right, King of Scotland, and Lord of Galloway. It was he whom tradition relates to have reſided, often in *Buittle*-Caſtle. With the ſovereignty of Scotland, the family of John Baliol loſt the lordſhip of Galloway. It fell at length, to John Comyn, grand-nephew to Baliol. Comyn was ſlain by Robert Bruce at Dumfries. His daughter and heireſs, become the wife of Archibald, Lord Douglaſs, an adherent to Bruce; and with her the family of Douglas acquired the lordſhip of Galloway.

IN this family it remained, till the eſtates and honours of the Earl of Douglas were forfeited to the Crown, in conſequence of his rebellion againſt King James II. This forfeiture took place in the year 1455*.

THE eſtates of the Douglaſſes in Galloway were ſoon granted by the munificence of the Scottiſh monarchs to other feudatories. The *Maxwell's* of Nithſdale obtained great part of Kirkcudbright-ſhire.

The

* For the moſt important of theſe facts, I confeſs myſelf indebted to a Learned Paper on the Ancient hiſtory of Galloway, by Mr Riddell of Glenriddell, the moſt eminent *Antiquarian* now in Galloway.

The *Stewarts* of Garlies became the moſt conſiderable proprietors of the lands in Wigton-ſhire. In the progreſs of civility, lands came to be transferred by ſale. The *Gordons* of Kenmore, then acquired great part of the poſſeſſions of the Maxwells; and other conſiderable families aroſe in theſe parts.

EVEN during the time of the old lords of Galloway, other families beſide them, would ſurely have poſſeſſions here. They had undoubtedly their feudatory dependents, who held lands from them, under certain conditions. Certain ſirnames ſtill prevail here, which I ſuſpect to have deſcended from the ancient inhabitants, the wild Scots of Galloway. Such are *M'Clurg*, *M'Lellan*, *M'Ghie*, *M'Kie*, *M'Dowall*, *M'Culloch*, *M'Taggart*,——perhaps *Murdoch*, and *Murchie*: *M'Turk* is probably Daniſh. Of the families of theſe names, ſome might poſſibly be cadets from the lords of Galloway: Others, from the firſt, diſtinct and dependent families. I ſhould ſuppoſe the *Fergusons* of Galloway to have deſcended from the old Lords.——

THUS imperfect is the hiſtory of ancient Galloway. The view of its preſent ſtate is more entertaining than the ſtory of its progreſs.—The tract of country lying between the rivers *Urr* and *Dee*, which I entered, upon croſſing the former of theſe rivers, is,

for the greater part, highly fertile, and well cultivated. The houſe of *Mollance*, the property of Mr Coupland of Collieſton, is ſeen, before one has advanced far over the bridge. It ſtands in a level ſituation. It is conſiderably large, and in a good ſtile of building. With the ſurrounding grounds, which are laid out in a good taſte, it contributes greatly to decorate and dignify the landſcape within which it appears. The adjacent lands are, by the care chiefly of Mr Coupland, divided by a ſufficient number of roads. The ſoil is here ſoft and deep. In forming theſe roads, therefore, it has been thought prudent to have them laid at firſt with common mould, without any conſiderable covering or mixture of gravel. After this ſtratum has been wrought together and conſolidated, for ſome time, the puddles and chaſms broken in it are filled up, and the whole laid with gravel. I am not ſure, that this is the *very beſt* plan for forming uſeful and deſirable roads. I found myſelf diſpoſed to complain of it, when travelling on the roads which had been formed upon it; for they were broken into many an almoſt impaſſable chaſm.

ADVANCING acroſs the ridge which divides the Dee from the Urr, I found myſelf in a tract of country that preſented every mark of rapid improvement. The fields are divided by ſtone-walls

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of ſuitable height and ſtrength. The farm-houſes are decently built, and have their roofs commonly covered with ſlate. New farm-houſes are riſing here and there, in the ſtile almoſt of handſome villas. The country is indeed bare of wood. The idea of lining the walls by which the fields are divided, with rows of trees, or of planting thorn hedges has not yet been generally adopted here. Yet, ſeveral clumps of riſing wood are ſcattered over theſe knolls: And every conſiderable houſe is ſheltered by plantations riſing round it.

FROM the middle of this bridge, the traveller beholds a wide extent of beautiful landſcape, ſtretching to the ſouth and the ſouth-weſt. On the foreground are the cultivated fields which form the lower part of the pariſh of Croſs-michael; the houſe of Green-law, almoſt hid amidſt the extent of wood, which ſpreads out around it, on all ſides, except the front; the village of *Carlinwark*, (newly chriſtened *Caſtle-Douglas;*) the *Carlinwark* loch, below; its environs, in a fine ſtate of cultivation, thick-ſet with farm-houſes; towards the ſouthern extremity of the proſpect, *Ingleſton*, the ſeat of Mr Heron, and the woods embowering the houſe of *Gallſton;* while mountains riſe beyond, incloſing the landſcape, towards the ſea. Towards the ſouth-weſt, the eye ranges over a wide and rich extent of landſcape:

The banks of the river, beautified, here and there, with wood: Several churches and gentlemen's ſeats: the ancient caſtle of *Thrieff* or *Thrieve;* and hamlets and villages thickly ſcattered over the ſcene.

MUCH has been done, within theſe laſt twenty years, towards augmenting the population, and improving the cultivation of theſe parts. It was, I believe, by ſome gentlemen from Ireland, that the inhabitants of Galloway were firſt taught the uſe of marle, as a manure. Through all that tract along this coaſt, which lies within eight or ten miles of the ſea-ſhore, has marle been found in conſiderable abundance, in the bogs and moſſes, and at various depths. In theſe marle-moſſes, are ſometimes found *exuviæ* of animals which no longer inhabit this iſland. I have ſeen the clint and horns of an *Aurochs* dug up from a marle-pit in this neighbourhood. But, of all the ſtrata of marle which this country has hitherto been known to contain, the moſt remarkable is that of the CARLINWARK LOCH. This loch cannot be more than four miles in circumference. On its ſides are tracts of moraſs from which the neighbouring inhabitants procure their *peats*. Even through theſe, the marle has been found to extend partially. But, the whole, or almoſt the whole bed of the lake has been found one continuous ſtratum of marle, of conſiderable thickneſs. Within the period above-

mentioned,

mentioned, or perhaps earlier, this marle has been dug or dragged up, and purchaſed as a manure, by all the neighbouring farmers. To the exiſtence of this vaſt ſtratum of marle has agriculture been indebted for the wonderful progreſs which it has lately made in theſe parts. The late proprietor, Mr Gordon of Culvennan, deſirous no leſs to improve the ſtate of the country, than to increaſe his own income, formed a canal to connect the Carlinwark loch with the river Dee, that the farmers on the banks of the river, wherever it is navigable by boats, might obtain marle for the manuring of their lands, by water-carriage. The roads were, at the ſame time, improved through the neighbourhood, ſo as to render them more eaſily acceſſible to carts. Families of labourers were ſettled at the head of the loch, who might be employed in digging and dragging up the marle: And this whole tract ſoon came, by theſe means, to aſſume a new aſpect, and to receive a great increaſe of population.

With the ſame prudence and public ſpirit which had directed him in turning the marle of the loch to his own advantage, and to the advantage of the country; Mr Gordon proceeded to form a village in the ſituation where labourers had been eſtabliſhed to dig up the marle. He feued out a certain extent of ground into ſmall portions, for houſes and gardens,

dens, upon moderate terms. The neighbouring peaſants were pleaſed with the idea of becoming *Lairds*. They crowded eagerly to obtain feus in the riſing village. The proprietor had ſoon the pleaſure of ſeeing his village occupied by a conſiderable number of labourers in huſbandry, country artiſans, petty ſhop-keepers, a few ale-houſe-keepers, and ſome old peaſants who having ſaved ſome ſmall ſums, were willing to enjoy in their latter days, that eaſe and dignity, which, they fancied, were to be found in the village life, and in the poſſeſſion of a *houſe and garden of their own*.

THIS village—of *Carlinwark* or *Caſtle-Douglas*, is ſituate upon the highway between Dumfries and *Portpatrick*. The number of its inhabitants was augmented, therefore, by incomers from Ireland; the Iriſh being, like the Scotch, ſtrongly diſpoſed to emigrate to any country richer than their own. It became the favourite haunt, too, of wandering beggars: and many houſes of entertainment for this claſs of gueſts were ſoon opened in it. Being advantageouſly ſituate for intercourſe with both the ſea-coaſts and the inland country; it ſoon became likewiſe a ſeat of ſmugglers. It ſeemed, for a while, to be rather the retreat of idleneſs, of want, and of vice, than a ſcene of cheerful, thriving, virtuous induſtry.

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AMIDST theſe circumſtances, one might have been led to fear, that the formation of this village would, in the end, prove more injurious than beneficial to the adjacent country. It appeared to be merely a gathering of the poor, the idle, and the vicious together, not to correct and amend their manners, or to improve their circumſtances; but to foſter their vices, to encourage their ſloth, and to render their poverty ſtill more helpleſsly miſerable. A market where proviſions might be diſpoſed of, but where little money was to be received, was little beneficial to the neighbouring farmers. A village thus formed, ſeemed a focus from which the contagion of vice might be ſpread over all the neighbourhood.

BUT, only for a ſhort while after its firſt eſtabliſhment, had it theſe effects. Even then, the ground feued out, afforded a much higher return to the landlord, than he could have drawn from it, by any other mode of management. It ſupplied him with abundance of labourers for the caſting of his marle. The market of the village was, at leaſt more or leſs convenient to the adjacent farmers. And they too found here a choice of labourers for hedging, draining, and ditching, for mowing, for threſhing, and for harveſt-work.—Beſides, a number of labourers thus brought together, were a great engine

engine which might be employed to ſome purpoſe of the firſt importance in ſocial life. Their poverty would rouſe them from idleneſs: And Education, Religion, and Law might check their vices.

Accordingly, in its progreſs, this village now becomes every day more thriving and more reſpectable. Flax-dreſſers, weavers, tanners, ſaddlers, cotton-ſpinners, maſons, and carpenters are now eſtabliſhed here. Of theſe artizans, ſome ſerve the country by ſupplying it with articles of home-manufacture, which were, before, to be imported from diſtant parts; others produce new articles of export, by which this neighbourhood gains in its traffic with other places. To maintain order, here, the village was ſome time ſince, erected into a burgh of barony, and placed under the government of magiſtrates, elected by the feuars. A court-houſe has been built, to give form and dignity to their meetings. And a priſon reared, to awe offenders. A ſchool for the inſtruction of the young had been provided, before it was thought neceſſary to provide reſtraints for thoſe who were grown up. Many of theſe citizens having acquired ſome ſhare of property, have thus become ſo reſpectable among their neighbours, as to have authority for the preſervation of decency and order.—By all theſe means has this village rapidly riſen to a thriving condition,

and

and contributed, in no inconſiderable degree, to the improvement of its immediate environs. It has lately—the ſuperiorities and the adjoining grounds—paſſed into the hands of a new proprietor, Mr Douglas of Caſtle-Douglas. By his care, the name of *Carlin-wark* has given place to Caſtle-Douglas, by which it is henceforth to be diſtinguiſhed. It ſeems probable, that his connections in trade and manufacture, his diſpoſition to promote the improvement of a place, in the advancement of which, the intereſts of his own fortune are concerned, and a generous deſire to diſtinguiſh himſelf as the benefactor of the country—may induce him to follow out the views of the late Superior of the Burgh, with ſufficient judgment, liberality, and ſpirit.

ANOTHER village has alſo riſen, at the diſtance of three miles weſtward from *Caſtle-Douglas*. The name of this village is *Ronehouſe*. It owes its origin to a great market or fair, which has long been held annually, in the beginning of July, in its near neighbourhood. This fair is well known among horſe and cattle-dealers by the name of *Keltonhill* fair. It has long been one of the moſt conſiderable that are held in this part of Scotland. From Ireland, from England, and from the moſt diſtant parts of North Britain, horſe-dealers, cattle-dealers, ſellers of ſweetmeats, and of ſpiritous liquors, gyp-

ſies, pick-pockets, and ſmugglers are accuſtomed to reſort to this fair. Every houſe in the village is crowded; And all become, upon this occaſion, houſes of entertainment. The roads are for a day or two before, crowded with comers to this fair. On the hill or park where it is held, tents are erected in rows, ſo as to form a ſort of ſtreet for the entertainment of the multitude. Through the whole fair-day, one buſy, tumultuous ſcene is here exhibited of buſtling backwards and forwards, bargaining, wooing, carouſing, quarrelling, amidſt horſes, cattle, carriages, mountebanks, the ſtalls of chapmen, and the tents of the ſellers of liquors, and of cold victuals. The fair is held on Tueſday: and for all the remainder of the week, the villagers are accuſtomed to wander about, and eat and carouſe in each other's houſes, to conſume the cold victuals and the liquors which remain of what they had provided for the ſale of the fair.—Nor is this fair frequented only by the peaſantry and the dealers. The buſy ſcene attracts commonly many of the neighbouring gentry to be ſpectators, for ſome ſhort time, of the confuſion, the tumult, and the rude feſtivity which it diſplays.

But, ſince agriculture has begun to be advanced in this neighbourhood, and ſince the landholders have adopted the principle of granting feus, and of ſubdividing

ſubdividing their lands into ſmall poſſeſſions of a few acres each; the village of Ronehouſe has advanced more from theſe cauſes, than by the influence of its annual fair. It is now the ſeat not only of alehouſe-keepers, but of labourers who find employment among the neighbouring farmers, of mechanics who are in the ſame manner employed by the neighbourhood, of ſome peddling ſhop-keepers, and even of one or two ſmall manufacturers.—Another village, conſiderably populous, ſtands at two miles diſtance, from Ronehouſe, at the Bridge of Dee.—The ſituation of all theſe three villages, upon the highway between Dumfries and Portpatrick brings a good many emigrants from Ireland to ſettle in them.

All this tract of country is indeed wonderfully populous. It is a fine proof of the tendency of agriculture to bring wealth and population to thoſe ſeats where it fixes. The influx of labourers from Ireland keeps the price of labour low. The vicinity of the ſea-coaſt affords the farmers ſufficient convenience for the exportation of their grain. The highway leading into England gives them conſiderable advantages for the ſale and exportation of their cattle. Hence a rapid increaſe of wealth and population. Every circumſtance ſeems to concur to point out this, as a ſcene formed to become the ſeat of

thriving manufactures. Coals alone are wanting. But, theſe are readily procured from the oppoſite coaſt of Cumberland.

YET this diſtrict has been perhaps more enriched, than beautified by its agriculture. A rotation of crops has not yet been generally adopted by theſe farmers. They lay lime or marle upon their fields; and then ſow one ſeed of oats after another, till the ſoil and the manure are for the time, exhauſted. No fence but the dry ſtone dyke is known among them. No ſurface would be more eaſily, or more delightfully ornamented with wood than the ſlowly ſubſiding vales, and the ſoftly ſwelling heights of theſe lands. But, they are almoſt univerſally bare. No clumps crown the eminences: No belts divide the fields; hardly has the farmer's or the cottager's kitchen-garden, a few trees to ſhelter it and his houſe.

IN this neighbourhood, in an iſle formed by the Dee, which divides into two ſtreams, that encircle this iſle, and then re-unite, ſtands the ancient caſtle of THRIEFF or THRIEVE. Its ruins,---for it is now ruinous,---occupy a conſiderable extent of ground. The origin of its name is unknown. A more ancient caſtle than this, is known by authentic records, to have formerly ſtood in the ſame ſituation.

If I might riſk a conjecture, I ſhould refer the foundation of that more ancient edifice to the times, when the ſway of the *Bernician* or *Northumbrian* monarchs extended over theſe parts of Galloway. This might be the reſidence of the RIEVE, or governor, under the *Bernician* king, and might, from this circumſtance, receive the denomination of *the Rieve's caſtle*. This ſeems, at leaſt, the moſt plauſible of the conjectures which have been offered, to account for the origin of this name. From the earlieſt periods in the Scottiſh hiſtory of Galloway, this caſtle appears to have been occupied. It ſeems to have been a ſtrong-hold of the old Lords of Galloway, or of ſome of their more conſiderable dependents. By ſucceſſion, it came from them into the hands of the Douglaſſes. Some of theſe laſt is ſuppoſed to have reared the preſent caſtle. Upon the forfeiture of their poſſeſſions, in 1745, the caſtle of *Thrieve* fell to the Crown. It was granted to the Maxwells of Nithſdale, as hereditary keepers. In the troubles of the laſt century, it was bravely defended for a while, by the Lord Maxwell, for his royal maſter. In times of turbulence when this caſtle afforded a protection to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, againſt rapine and invaſion, it had been ſettled, that, I think, more than twenty of the neighbouring pariſhes ſhould pay annually, at Martinmas, a beef-cow or ox to the Conſtable, Governor,

vernor, or Keeper of the Caſtle. This tribute continued to be paid, even ſince the beginning of the preſent century. When the family of Nithſdale ſold the adjoining part of the eſtate of Kelton, they reſerved the caſtle on this account.—The caſtle and the iſle are now poſſeſſed, by what right I know not, by the proprietor of the eſtate of Kelton.

SINCE the caſtle became leſs eligible for a dwelling, a houſe has been built, at ſome ſmall diſtance upon the ſouthern bank of the river. This is the houſe of Kelton. The pariſh in which it ſtands, bears the ſame name; as does alſo the adjoining eſtate. Contiguous to *Thrieve*-caſtle, upon the north-weſt, is the farm of *Thrieve Grange;* which, from the name, I ſhould conjecture to have been anciently attached to the caſtle. At ſome diſtance farther to the north-weſt, is the houſe of *Balmaghie*, bearing the name, too, of an eſtate and a pariſh, the ancient poſſeſſions of the M'GHIES, one of the moſt ancient families in Galloway. The eſtate has now paſſed into the hands of a Mr Gordon of London.

SUCH is the country which opens to the traveller's view, as he advances to the north-weſt, over the ridge, by which the river *Urr* is divided from the *Dee*.—Near the kirk of Croſſmichael, at a place called *Crofts*, is a beautiful monument of ancient

times;

times; the ſummit of a hill of moderate height, commanding the river, and its banks immediately below,—formed into an oval camp. This is, no doubt, a monument of the Saxons. It unavoidably attracts the notice of the traveller, as the road paſſes near. I have not learned, that the traditions of the country have preſerved any part of its hiſtory.

THE road now leads down upon the bank of the river, to a ſcene which has been lately improved by conſiderable decorations. Theſe lands having, within theſe few years been purchaſed by *Mr Sloan-Laurie* of *Woodhall;* he has built for himſelf an handſome houſe, on the bank; has made preparations to lay out and decorate the ſurrounding grounds in a good taſte; and has ſcattered about, a good many farm-houſes of a very neat comfortable aſpect. The clergyman of the pariſh's little domain lies in the immediate neighbourhood; and his attention and taſte have alſo contributed to the improvement of this landſcape.—The church of Croſſmichael ſtands near. A ſmall village is riſing round it. The houſes are intermingled among the little gardens of the villagers; and trees of a good growth riſe among theſe; the whole has a very pleaſing effect. The hill above diſplays, near its ſummit, the houſe of *Culgurff*, with ſome clumps of trees around it. On the oppoſite ſide of the river are the kirk of *Balmaghie*, with

with the manſe, a decent farm-houſe or two, and at ſome ſhort diſtance, above, the houſe of *Living-ſtone*.—Theſe are delicious ſcenes; ſequeſtered, yet cheerful and animated; cultivated, yet not diveſted of the ſimple graces of nature; wanting only ſomewhat more of careful decoration, and of ſkilful agriculture, to render them the moſt beautiful that fancy can conceive. The proſpect is indeed bounded by heaths and hills; but the effect of theſe is ſufficiently ſoftened by the beauties of the foreground.

The church of Croſſmichael was a place of worſhip in the remoter times of the hiſtory of Popery. This pariſh was, I think, a dependency of the Abbey of *Sweetheart*, or New Abbey, already mentioned. Here ſtood anciently a croſs ſacred to St Michael; around which the peaſantry of the neighbouring country were wont to aſſemble, at Michaelmas, to a fair. The fair is ſtill held. The croſs has been removed. I believe, that while there were fewer roads, carriers, country-ſhopkeepers, and leſs ordinary intercourſe among the inhabitants of theſe parts, than at preſent,—this fair uſed to be better frequented than it now is.

Great attention has lately been paid to the roads, in theſe parts. The road up the bank of the Dee, and afterwards of the Kerr, opening a communication

tion with the inland part of Kircudbright-ſhire, and with Ayrſhire has been carefully improved. They are now buſy repairing it, and correcting its direction. For ſome miles above Croſſ-michael-Kirk, it is ſtill good. It leads ſtill through pleaſing ſcenery, along the bank of the river.

Parton-house, the ſeat of Mr Glendonwyn of Parton, is finely ſituate on an eminence hanging over the level bank of the river, and ſheltered by wood. A level tract here extends along the river-ſide. This, however, is of no conſiderable breadth. The ground ſoon riſes, for a very narrow extent, with a gentle aſcent; and then ſtarts up ſomewhat abruptly to form a ridge above. The ſhelving of the hill is here fringed partly with a furze and wild ſhrubbery, and partly overhung with taller trees. The road leads among theſe; yet ſtill to leave the river and its oppoſite bank within view. The effect is charming. And on this ſhelving ſide is Mr Glendonwyn's houſe ſeated, ſo as to command a proſpect of great part of the fine ſcenery which adorns the progreſs of the river.

The proprietor of this houſe and of the adjoining eſtate of Parton, is the repreſentative of a very ancient and honourable family, whoſe poſſeſſions were once much more extenſive, than they have

lately been. In the more ſouthern provinces of Scotland, the family of Glendonwyn have, from a very early period after the Norman conqueſt, enjoyed extenſive poſſeſſions. In this diſtrict of Kirkcudbright-ſhire, and in the contiguous ſide of Dumfries-ſhire, their lands were very conſiderable. Sufferings for their loyalty in the laſt century, and various circumſtances have, in the progreſs of time concurred to impair their poſſeſſions. By the preſent proprietor, the fortunes of this family have been augmented. A circumſtance, which the eſteem in which he and his anceſtors have always been held, renders very pleaſing to all who know him.

At *Parton*, the proſpect becomes more bleak, and exhibits leſs verdure or cultivation, yet is ſtill beautiful. Upon the banks of the river are tracts of meadow ſometimes wider, ſometimes narrower. Corn-lands intervene between theſe and the hills. Wood is ſcattered irregularly upon the riſing ſlope of the hills, upon the brink of the river, round the cottages, and the farm-houſes. The church and the manſe of Parton, ſituate, one upon the bank of the river, the other, at an inconſiderable diſtance, near the baſe of a wooded hill. Near the church is a *moat*, planted around, and upon the ſides, up to its ſummit with trees. All theſe objects produce a pleaſing effect on a ſummer night, when the beams of the

the ſetting ſun are ſoftly reflected from the waters: While the cattle on the adjoining paſtures, and the peaſants buſy at their labours or returning from them, join to animate the ſcene. The crops on theſe banks are the earlieſt ripe in all the country. The river abounds with a great variety of fiſhes; trouts, pikes, perches. Salmons enter it at Kirkcudbright-ſhire, and advance many miles above this ſituation, towards its ſource.

A MILE or two above Parton is the junction of the rivers Dee and Kerr. The promontory formed between them, has received the name of Airds. The eſtate of Airds formerly the property of a reſpectable branch of the family of M'Ghie, has been purchaſed within theſe few years, by a Mr Livingſton. It is covered over with wood, for ſome length. The bare rock ſhews itſelf, here and there, through the wood. The effect of the whole, riſing between the meeting rivers, is ſufficiently pictureſque. From the height, the eye commands a wide and rich proſpect of the lower environs of the Dee.

NEARLY oppoſite to Airds appear the ruins of the old houſe or caſtle of Drumraſk, and near it, an humble houſe covered with thatch, which is occupied by the preſent proprietor. Drumraſk was, at one time, the property of a branch of the family of

Glendonwyn,—at another of a cadet of the family of Gordon of Kenmure. It now belongs to a Mr Shaw. A riſing wood of oaks divides it from the river on one ſide. The extent of meadow and of corn-land becomes here narrower. On one ſide riſe towering rocks: and a bleak muir ſpreads out, on the other.

The foſſils of theſe parts are not greatly diverſified. The loftier ſtrata of rocks conſiſt commonly of blue whin, or grey granite. Extenſive moraſſes of peat-earth; and wide beds of the ſame in a drier ſtate, are, every where to be found. Theſe indeed afford almoſt the only fuel which is uſed by all claſſes of the inhabitants of theſe parts. No pit-coal is found here. The country is not ſufficiently opened up by roads—to render the importation of coals from the ſea-coaſt, or from the confines of Ayrſhire eaſy. It is but little wood that theſe parts afford; and that little is too precious to be uſed for fuel. But peats are in great abundance, and coſt very little more than the labour of cutting, of drying, and of carrying them home. Trunks of trees are ſtill found in theſe moſſes in a ſtate of good preſervation. Here as elſewhere, the beds of peat earth have been chiefly formed by the decay of the foreſts.

PROCEEDING a ſhort way onwards, by a road, which becomes more indifferent as you advance, the fine lake of Kerr opens upon the eye. Immediately beyond this lake, riſe a range of hills which terminate abruptly towards the ſouth-eaſt, in a rock more elevated than the reſt, known by the name---half-Gaelic---half---Saxon,---of *Benin-hill.* Theſe hills advance, on their front, almoſt cloſe to the edge of the lake, before they terminate: Leaving room only for a road, known by the name of *Loworon* road—poſſibly from the perſon who was firſt employed to form it. The lake may be nearly four miles in length, and where wideſt, from one to two miles in breadth. It is formed by the ſtagnation of the waters of the river Kerr. Some iſlets, covered, or in part covered with wood, are ſcattered over it. Its ſhores are here and there fringed with wood. At its head appear Kenmure-Caſtle in a moſt picturesque ſituation; the ſmall burgh of New-Galloway; with a wood of ſtately elms, beeches, and pines filling up the ſpace between. Above where the Kerr diffuſes itſelf into this lake, a level tract of fine meadow and of fertile arable ground,—the holm of Kenmure,—extends between the edge of the river, and the town, the wood, and the caſtle on the weſtern-ſide. The ſide on which the traveller approaches, as this landſcape appears, is cultivated,—towards the lake. Cloſe upon the eaſtern edge, and embowered in wood,

or ſheltered at leaſt with wood, ſtands the Houſe of Shermours, which with the eſtate connected with it, is the property of Mr Spalding-Gordon of *Holm*, and preſently Sherriff of Wigtonſhire. The houſe of Shermours was ſeveral years ago reduced to a ruinous condition by fire. It is finely ſeated, at no great diſtance from the edge of the lake.

Upon the loch and the river-ſide, theſe lands are ſtill arable. The farm of *Park-Robin* produces no inconſiderable crop, beſide feeding a good number of black-cattle, and a quantity of ſheep. The agriculture of theſe parts has been improved within theſe laſt ten or twelve years, by the uſe of thoſe manures, which have been ſo ſucceſsfully employed in the more ſouthern parts of Kirkcudbright-ſhire. Marle has been brought from the loch of Carlinwark, in boats, by the canal communicating between that loch and the Dee, and up the river---from where the canal joins it. Lime has alſo been brought hither in carts from the *Dubb of Haſs*, near the mouth of *Urr*, and from the foot of *Tarff* a ſmaller river which running in a more weſtern direction, joins the Dee near Kirkcudbright:——Both theſe being ſtations where lime-ſloops diſcharge their burthens. No rotation of crops ſerving to keep the ground productive, without exhauſting its fertility has

has been adopted here, any more than upon the ſea-ſhore, and in the lower parts of Kirkcudbright-ſhire.

THE breed of ſheep in theſe parts, is reckoned to afford the beſt flavoured mutton that Scotland yields. The black-cattle are very generally valued. Yet, I would not venture to aſſert very earneſtly, that the farmers of the Glenkens excell greatly in the management of either ſheep or black-cattle.—*Glenkens* is the name appropriated to all this diſtrict divided by the river *Kerr*.

GALLOWAY, and this, among the other parts of Galloway, was anciently famous for a ſmall breed of horſes, very little larger than the horſes of the Highlands and of Shetland, known commonly by the name of Shelties. That race are no longer preſerved unmixed here. Nor does the breeding of horſes enter ſo much as it once did, into the œconomy of the farmers in theſe parts. Iriſh horſes are often imported into Galloway.

IN the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the Scots carried on a conſiderable trade in horſes, which they bred and exported to foreign countries. They carried horſes both of a great, and of a ſmall ſize, into England for ſale. An Act of David Bruce's impoſes a duty of the ſixth part of the value, on the exportation

exportation of every horſe out of the kingdom; a proof that horſes were exported; and that this prince had ſome reaſon for wiſhing to reſtrain the trade. James I. eſtabliſhed regulations favourable to the exportation of horſes. The breed common at that time, in Scotland, was the ſmall ſized, whoſe race has been continued in the Galloways and the Shelties. In the reign of James II. larger ſtallions and mares were imported from Hungary. James IV. had ſwift horſes, on one of which, by Leſley's account, he rode 150 miles, between Stirling and Elgin, by Perth and Aberdeen, in a day. James V. made ſeveral regulations for improving the breed of horſes in general, throughout Scotland. Still, however, the breed continued ſmall. Nor was it, till after it had been frequently croſſed, that the ancient ſmall breed came to be confined to Galloway and the diſtant Highlands. In the Highlands as in Galloway, this breed are daily more and more neglected. Yet as they poſſeſs all the good qualities of mules without their vicious defects, I ſhould be ſorry to ſee them entirely exterminated.——It was perhaps, when horſes of the ſmall ſize were more generally and more carefully tried in Galloway, than at preſent, that Kelton-hill fair became famous as a horſe-market.

CROSSING Ken by a boat, called the boat of *Cubbocks*, we now entered the burgh of New Galloway.

NEW GALLOWAY and the GLENKENS.

ALTHOUGH agriculture have attained to no great height of improvement in the upper part of this tract of country which is watered by the Ken and the Dee;—Although it be rather the rearing than the feeding of ſheep and black cattle,—the leaſt lucrative branch in the management of domeſtic animals—which is chiefly purſued by the farmers of theſe parts;—Although no manufacture have yet been tried here, with ſucceſs, or proſecuted with ſpirit: Yet, is the population of this diſtrict far from inconſiderable; and its inhabitants certainly enjoy a competent ſhare of the firſt neceſſaries, and the conveniencies of life.

THE farms are commonly of moderate extent. Several families are often eſtabliſhed upon one farm. A ſort of village is commonly formed round or near every pariſh church. A few other hamlets of labourers, artizans, and ſhop-keepers are ſcattered through every pariſh. And, here and there are ſmall towns or villages of greater magnitude.

THE Burgh of New Galloway was erected into a Royal Burgh, by Charles I. about the year 1633. No houſes had been built, and no aſſemblage of population gathered hither, before that period. When Charles, in a viſit to Scotland, dealt out among his principal Scottiſh ſubjects, ſuch honours and bounties as he had to beſtow; Sir John Gordon of Lochinvar obtained a peerage, with the title of Viſcount of Kenmure, and the creation of this Royal Burgh upon his eſtate.

SITUATE in the vicinity of Kenmure-Caſtle, in a ſituation, one of the moſt delightful that fancy can conceive to exiſt in a wild country; favoured by its lords; and enjoying burgh-privileges; New Galloway ſeems to have ſoon attracted a few inhabitants. Its preſent population may be between four and five hundred ſouls. And, as the extent of the burgh has not, for a very long while, been increaſed; it ſeems probable, that its population might, in a ſhort time after it was firſt founded, riſe to nearly its preſent amount.

THE inhabitants are mechanics, labourers in huſbandry, a few alehouſe-keepers, two or three ſhop-keepers.—It conſiſts of two ſmall ſtreets, croſſing each other at right angles. It riſes at the foot of an irregular ridge of ground. The houſes are low,

low, ill-built, thatched with ſtraw, and very imperfectly repaired within. A ſaſhed window was lately a curioſity not to be ſeen here. One of the ſtreets making a part of the highway between *Kirkcudbright* and *Dalmellington*, on the confines of Ayr-ſhire, is decently paved, and kept tolerably clean. The other is not uſually preſerved in ſo good a condition. But, a few ſlate-houſes, riſing to the height of two ſtories, or a ſtory and a half, are interſperſed among the lower and thatch-covered houſes: The little gardens of the citizens lie cloſe behind their houſes, above and below the town: They are divided by hedges; and trees riſe around, or here and there among them: The ſpire of the court-houſe is a diſtinguiſhed object in the groupe: And when the ſmoke riſes from the little chimnies; and the whole is viewed either from an elevation above, or from below; no aſſemblage of objects can be conceived, more pleaſing to the eye, and the imagination.

Most of the inhabitants of this little burgh poſſeſs, beſide their houſes and gardens, ſmall *crofts*, on which a cow or two are fed, and a few bolls of potatoes and corn raiſed,—and a ſmall ſpot of meadow upon the river, which affords winter-fodder for their cattle. Thus, if they prepare nothing which they can export to diſtant places; they are

ſupplied, at home, with a great ſhare of thoſe few articles of neceſſity or convenience which they require.

Beside the inhabitants of the town, a good many families of cottagers are ſcattered over the adjoining *Mains of Kennure*.

This little burgh is of conſiderable utility to the adjoining country. It has a weekly market to which meal is brought from the low country, and to which the farmers, but more eſpecially the cottagers from the remoter muirs repair to ſupply themſelves. It has a poſt-office, by which it ſerves as a point of correſpondence between the adjacent diſtrict and the other parts of the iſland. It has a mill to which the little crops of the neighbourhood are brought to be made into meal.— I have ſometimes thought, that if a miller with ſome ſmall capital, and at the ſame time, a turn for trade, were eſtabliſhed here, he might carry on a lucrative trade in grain between the upper and the lower country: He might purchaſe corn from the farmers in the Low Country, make it into meal, and ſupply the inhabitants on the paſture-grounds in his neighbourhood.— The ſhop-keepers of this town, with the aid of the travelling chapmen, ſupply all the neighbourhood with moſt of thoſe foreign articles which they require in

their

their ſimple modes of life. Here is a ſchool, too, which, like the other pariſh-ſchools in Scotland, contributes happily to the preſervation and the diffuſion of uſeful knowledge among the poor.—Unfortunately, the roads which paſs this way, have never been very carefully repaired, or greatly frequented: And here is no good inn for the reception of ſtrangers; although travellers who can content themſelves with a narrow room, without great variety of proviſions or of liquors, will here find the moſt obliging treatment, and enough of plain fare.——

THE houſes in the town, with the whole circumjacent grounds, are the property of Mr Gordon of Kenmure. The town might have been enlarged ere now, if the landlord had adopted the policy of granting feus. But, in the idea, I ſuppoſe, that unleſs where there are thriving eſtabliſhments of trade or lucrative labour, the practice of feuing ſerves only to collect together a horde of the poor and the diſſolute; the lords of New Galloway have hitherto granted very few feus.

THE inhabitants of *Glenkens* are as much diſtinguiſhed by uncorrupted manners and liberal good ſenſe, as thoſe of any other diſtrict of Scotland which I have ever had occaſion to viſit. This one would attribute, in a good meaſure, to the ſuperior pro-

portion

portion which thoſe who are eſteemed gentry, and thoſe who have received a liberal education, here bear in numbers, to the poor and the uneducated. —It is obſervable, too, that of all that part of mankind who earn their maintenance by their labour, country-mechanics and labourers in huſbandry are uſually the moſt intelligent. Their intelligence is not diminiſhed by their being intermixed among ſhepherds. Now this is preciſely the deſcription of the people of theſe parts.—Beſides, the inhabitants of Kirkcudbright-ſhire in general, have never been remarkable for religious prejudices of any kind: Otherwiſe, although the purity of their manners had not been corrupted, yet might their tempers have been ſoured by the vitiating leaven of enthuſiaſm.

THE beauties of *LOCH KEN* and its environs appear to have been partially diſtinguiſhed by the great of the country from the earlieſt times. Kenmure-Caſtle, ſituate in the happieſt ſite that can be imagined for the ſeat either of a Martial Chieftain, in a rude, or a man of taſte and fortune, in a poliſhed age, ſeems to have been a ſtrong-hold in the days of the ancient Lords of Galloway. John Baliol who ſucceeded to a great part of the eſtate of thoſe ancient lords, is ſaid to have often reſided at Kenmure. Reſigning to the Engliſh monarch, all

his

his poſſeſſions in Scotland, he had neglected to reſerve his patrimonial eſtates of Buittle, Kirkandres, and Kenmure in Galloway. Theſe, Edward, by a partieular deed, reſtored to him. Kenmure came at length into the poſſeſſion of the Douglaſſes. Upon their forfeiture, it was granted by the Crown to the Maxwells of Caerlaverock. From this family it was purchaſed by Sir John Gordon of Lochinvar, in the end of the fourteenth, or at leaſt, in the fifteenth century. To his poſterity, the eſtate of Kenmure has ever ſince belonged.

THE family of Gordon of Kenmure are among the moſt ancient and honourable in Scotland. The Gordons of Scotland and England are originally from Normandy. In their firſt ſettlement in Scotland, they obtained eſtates in Berwick-ſhire. In Berwickſhire, there is ſtill a pariſh diſtinguiſhed by the name of Gordon. This family were, at length ſubdivided into two great branches; both of whom aequired new poſſeſſions in different parts of Scotland. One received from the Crown a grant of lands in the North, and founded the family of the preſent Duke of Gordon: the other acquired the lands of Lochinvar in Galloway, and were the anceſtors of the Gordons of Kenmure, and of the other diſtinguiſhed families of this name, in the ſouth-weſt of Scotland. The family of Gordon of Lochinvar,

Lochinvar, in proceſs of time, acquired, by grant, by purchaſe, or by marriage, the greater part of the lands in Kirkcudbrightſhire. They removed from Lochinvar, their firſt ſeat in theſe parts, to Kenmure. They were diſtinguiſhed by the confidence of their ſovereigns, and by their loyalty. Sir John Gordon of Lochinvar was one of the faithful adherents to the unfortunate Queen Mary. His ſon or ſucceſſor was one of the moſt diſtinguiſhed Scotchmen in the court of James VI. It was in regard, no doubt to their fidelity to his anceſtors, no leſs, than to their great poſſeſſions and influence in this country, that Charles I. beſtowed the title of Viſcount, and the privileges of the peerage on the repreſentative of this family, who was his contemporary.---The Gordons were related by marriage, to the family of Gowrie: And it is ſaid that the Viſcount of Kenmure wiſhing to claim the honours and eſtates which had been forfeited from that family, had ſold the barony of Stitchel in Berwick-ſhire, which had been long the property of his family, and preſented the purchaſe-money to Buckingham, to buy his intereſt with the king, on the night before that unfortunate miniſter was murdered at Portſmouth.—However this might be: The family of Kenmure were, through the ſubſequent part of the laſt century, friends to the people and ſteady profeſſors of the Preſbyterian religion; yet at the ſame time loyal ſubjects to their ſovereigns.

ſovereigns. Upon the ſucceſſion of the family of Hanover to the Britiſh Throne, an attachment too faithful, to the male line of the princes by whom his anceſtors had been truſted and honoured, carried the Viſcount of Kenmure to join the friends of the Pretender in the year 1715. His life was loſt, and his peerage forfeited in that cauſe. His deſcendents inheriting his eſtate, have ſince endeavoured by ſerving in the army to make amends for their anceſtor's miſtake. The Honourable John Gordon, the preſent repreſentative of this ancient family, who reſides at Kenmure-Caſtle, is diſtinguiſhed no leſs by his attention to promote the proſperity of the country, and the intereſts of his tenants, than by his deſcent from a line of anceſtors to whom Galloway and their country in general have ſo many obligations.

The houſe of Kenmure ſtands upon an inſulated mount, which, before obſerving the rock, of which it is, on one ſide, compoſed, the ſpectator might be apt to ſuppoſe artificial. Here are ſeveral buildings of different ages; all of them conſiderably ancient. Within are ſpacious and elegant rooms, handſomely furniſhed. The library contains a fine collection of the beſt writers in different languages. The paintings do honour to the taſte of the collectors. Among others, here is one of the few genuine portraits of Queen Mary; who, in her misfortunes,

was greatly indebted to the loyal attachment of one of the anceſtors of this family.

THE clanſhip of the North has long been forgotten here. Yet, the dependents of the family of Kenmure are ſtill attached to its repreſentative, with much of that affection and reſpect with which the tribes of the Highlands have, till lately, been accuſtomed to adhere to their lord. Many reſpectable families of the name of Gordon are eſtabliſhed in Kirkcudbright-ſhire: And moſt of theſe are proud to trace their deſcent from the family of Kenmure. Several of the tenants on the eſtate occupy the very farms which were poſſeſſed by their fathers and grand-fathers. Of the inhabitants of the burgh, ſome have lived either in it, or in its neighbourhood, almoſt ever ſince it was erected. And, thoſe who ſo long enjoy the protection of a race of benefactors, inſenſibly form habits of reſpect and attachment, which no change of manners or of circumſtances can readily efface.

ONE inſtitution which does high honour to the good ſenſe and the benevolence of Mr Gordon of Kenmure, is a FARMER CLUB, at which he himſelf occaſionally attends, and preſides. In ſituations leſs ſhut up from the intercourſe of the world, meetings of this nature are leſs neceſſary; for the neceſſary intercourſe

intercourſe of buſineſs affords thoſe who are placed in ſuch ſituations, opportunities enough of comparing and examining their reſpective habits, practices, and opinions, and of receiving information of what paſſes in the more diſtant parts of the world. Yet, even there, advantages are derived to ſociety from ſuch aſſociations. But, in a diſtrict, like this, remote from the buſy ſcenes of commerce and induſtry, unleſs precautions be uſed to oppoſe the influence of local circumſtances; cuſtoms, manners, and opinions deſcend unvaried and unimproved, from generation to generation: The ſon imitates his father, and has no ideas of perfection not exemplified in his practice: Opinions are hardly ever matched againſt each other with any thing of that colliſion which is neceſſary to try their reſpective tempers. Hence that retrogreſſion of improvement in the arts, and in the modes of life which often takes place in ſuch ſituations. Now, every means that may tend to obviate theſe diſadvantages muſt plainly be highly beneficial to thoſe places which are expoſed to them. In this reſpect, do I ſuppoſe, that the Glenkens may be benefited by the FARMER CLUB of New-Galloway. The farmers meeting together monthly, converſe about their ſtocks, their crops, the markets, the ſeaſons: Any thing peculiar in any one man's mode of management, if he find it beneficial or think it plauſible, is, with an honeſt pride

communicated, for the approbation and the imitation of his neighbours: If it be ridiculous, or disadvantageous, it will not fail to be eagerly noticed by thoſe who think it fooliſh to deſert the old and beaten track: Every farmer, too, attending ſuch a meeting, will naturally ſtrive to do himſelf credit by communicating whatever he may have learned at diſtant fairs or markets, or may have obſerved in his excurſions to theſe, concerning the improvements in huſbandry that are elſewhere purſued. Thus a body of uſeful information is brought into the common ſtock. Thoſe prejudices for old practices are diſſipated, which reſtrained the progreſs of improvement. Uſeful experiments are ſuggeſted. And a whole neighbourhood learn to countenance each other in trials, which no one durſt ſingly to have ventured upon.

The Farmer-Club at New-Galloway being but newly formed: I know not that they have taken any meaſures to regiſter their mutual communications,—to make experiments at the common expence,—or to give form, dignity, and permanency to their inſtitution. Without ſuch, it might be tranſient, or might produce no other advantages than thoſe of a common convivial club. I am therefore willing to hope, that the ſame liberal intelligence which ſuggeſted its inſtitution, muſt certainly diſ-

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cern the propriety of uſing every means to render it as uſeful to the country, as its nature will permit.

WITH the inſtitution of this Club, markets for cattle have begun to be held at New-Galloway. Theſe markets are ſo arranged, that from New-Galloway, the dealers in cattle can proceed to Rone-houſe, or to Gate-houſe of fleet, and from theſe to Dumfries, to continue the ſale or purchaſe of cattle.

THIS might be an advantageous ſituation for eſtabliſhments of ſeveral ſpecies of manufacture. Here is abundance of various ſorts of proviſions. Thoſe other articles of proviſion, fiſh and grain which are not in the greateſt plenty here, are eaſily procured from the Low Country and the ſea-coaſt. Abundance of peats may be obtained at a very moderate price,——if theſe people had only induſtry enough to make a good cart road to their peat-moſſes. And, when a good road ſhall be formed between this part of Galloway and Ayr-ſhire, coals may be had, very cheap, from that country: Or if a canal were drawn between the loch of Ken and the mouth of any of the rivers, Urr, Dee, or Tarff, the coals of Cumberland might be imported at a reaſonable enough rate. With theſe advantages, any manufacture for which the raw materials might be

be readily obtained, and its productions readily brought to market, might certainly succeed here.

YET some circumstances lead me to fear that no very flourishing manufacture will, for a long while yet to come, be established at New-Galloway; unless perhaps it may be by the wealth and enterprising spirit of strangers from the present seats of manufacture. The native inhabitants of this place having been accustomed to ideas of labour and of gain very different from the principles and the œconomy of manufacturing trade, cannot easily divest themselves of prejudice, and attempt manufactures with sufficient steadiness of resolution or coolness of hope. Whenever they are induced to try any thing like manufacture; they begin with the extravagant hope, that it is *instantly* to enrich them with the most enormous profits; without considering, that any extraordinary industry or attention is necessary to the success of their hopes. They never reflect that no *new attempt of this nature can be highly profitable in its very commencement:* They make no allowance for their own indolence, extravagance, or inexperience: Every disappointment is charged to the particular nature of that species of manufacture which has been attempted. They relinquish it with despondency and disgust; and again sit down satisfied with their former poverty, and with that piddling traffic and loitering

loitering labour to which they have been accuſtommed.—A tannery, a ſpecies of manufacture ſufficiently ſuitable to the circumſtances of the country has been repeatedly tried here. The firſt attempt although oppoſed hardly by any diſadvantage, but the want of a great capital to begin with, and the above-mentioned circumſtances in the character of the people, was liſtleſsly purſued from the firſt, and, by inſenſible degrees, fell away to nothing. The firſt ardour with which the ſecond attempt in this branch of buſineſs was made,—very ſoon cooled. The firſt partners in the concern have ſhewn an earneſtneſs to transfer their ſtock to others—Yet, abundance of hides are to be obtained in Galloway. What more may be wanted, are eaſily imported from Ireland. Bark is to be procured by the purchaſe of young oak wood, which, though greatly weeded away, is however, as plentiful here, even now, as in moſt other parts of Scotland. Leather is not one of thoſe articles which are the moſt troubleſome or expenſive in the carriage. Such leather as has been manufactured here, has been readily ſold, as well in the country, as at any of the next large towns, at which it was offered for ſale: Nay, it might have been exported to England and other places by the the way of Kirkcudbright, with ſufficient advantage: Or, a connected manufacture of boots and ſhoes, of ſaddles, of gloves might have been formed here;

here; and theſe exported with great profit to all directly concerned, and to the neighbourhood in general.

A MANUFACTURE of coarſe woollens has been lately propoſed here. It is warmly encouraged by Mr Gordon. An attempt has been made to raiſe by ſubſcription, a ſtock conſiſting of a certain number of ſhares. The ſubſcription is likely to be filled up. Conſiderable difficulties muſt be ſurmounted, before this manufacture can be eſtabliſhed. The manufacture of woollen cloths is ſubdivided into many ſeparate branches: Suitable wool is firſt to be obtained: The waſhing, picking, and ſorting of this wool, form alone, a very complex labour: Although the carding and ſpinning of it ſhould be performed by mill-machinery; yet ſtill very conſiderable pains and expence are requiſite to the performance of theſe operations, however abridged: Next comes the weaving, not the moſt operoſe part of the buſineſs; Then, the dreſſing and dyeing, by far the niceſt and moſt difficult of the proceſſes in the preparation of cloth.

BUT, here is abundance of wool; which having been long too much neglected by the farmers, is not indeed of the very beſt quality. Proviſions are cheap, and the price of labour low. Coarſe woollens

lens would find a very ready market. In the days of James VI. when the wool of Galloway was more famous than at preſent, for its fineneſs, Dumfries poſſeſſed a flouriſhing woollen manufacture. Since that eſtabliſhment no longer exiſts, why may it not be replaced by a woollen manufactory at New Galloway?

I MUST, however, confeſs, that when I conſider what an immenſe and increaſing manufacture of woollens exiſts in England; that a manufacture of coarſe woollen cloths has been long eſtabliſhed in the neighbouring ſhire of Ayr; that a manufacture of carpets has already been ſucceſsfully commenced at Newton-Douglaſs upon the river Cree; that the proceſſes of this manufacture are complex, requiring great expence, ſkill, and perſevering induſtry:---The conſideration of all theſe circumſtances leads me to fear, that this attempt to eſtabliſh a woollen manufacture at New Galloway, laudable as it is, may poſſibly miſgive. It is to be hoped that the undertakers will attempt none but thoſe coarſe woollen ſtuffs which have been moſt neglected in other places. I could even wiſh, that they would, for a while, content themſelves with making yarn, which they might diſpoſe of, to the woollen manufacturers of York-ſhire;---or, if they *will* make cloth, would ſell it raw and undreſſed to the ſame manufacturers

of York-ſhire. Perhaps indeed, they might, with ſufficient advantage, finiſh for the market, coarſe carpeting and flannels. The *Iriſh*, too, who come over into Galloway and eagerly truck their linen for old woollen clothes,---would ſtill more readily accept in exchange, *coarſe new cloth.*

A SMALL manufacture of coarſe hats might be profitably enough tried at New Galloway. Here is wool, coarſe indeed for the moſt part, yet containing portions in almoſt every fleece, which, if carefully ſelected, might prove excellent materials for the hatter. Here are alſo in conſiderable quantity, ſkins of hares, fulmarts, otters. A conſiderable part of that money which is received for their ſheep and black cattle is, every year, paid away for hats. This might very well be kept at home, if a hatter or two were eſtabliſhed here; and a good ſum might be even brought into the country, by the exportation of hats.

THE manufacture of linens might ſucceed here, ſhould it not be thought wiſer to encourage the importation of Iriſh linens, in exchange for the productions of a woollen manufacture more ſuitable to the circumſtances of the country. Even at preſent, linen made in the country can be ſold, ſo as to be

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to the buyer a better penny-worth than any Iriſh linen, and yet ſufficiently productive to the ſeller.

BUT, the cotton-manufacture is the favourite object, at preſent with all the inhabitants of theſe parts. It has been, within theſe few years, introduced into the lower part of Galloway, by a company from England. It has afforded employment to many hands, and very large profits to the proprietors and managers. Beholding theſe circumſtances, the native inhabitants of the country have been rouſed from their natural indolence, and have been induced to turn to the cotton manufacture with incredible alacrity. Let them perſiſt. But, let them not neglect for it, manufactures more ſuitable to the circumſtances of their country, and therefore more likely to prove permanent, if once fairly eſtabliſhed among them. It may perhaps be tried at New Galloway. But, I had rather ſee any of the other manufactures, above ſpecified, thrive there.

I SHOULD ſuppoſe, that if manufactures ſhall be eſtabliſhed at New Galloway, if the opulence of this little place ſhall increaſe, if the numbers of its inhabitants ſhall be conſiderably augmented; the reſpectable and enlightened lord of the manor, inſtead of granting feus, may prefer the plan of building hou-

ſes to accommodate the new inhabitants, or at leaſt of making the houſes which may be built upon other conditions, reverſible to himſelf, or his heirs, after a term of a certain number of years, or upon the death of the builder. Thus may the increaſe of population be encouraged, without introducing turbulence or licentiouſneſs. Who knows but, that, in the courſe of time, the cottages ſcattered over the mains of Kenmure may be converted into ſo many villas occupied by the merchants and manufacturers of New Galloway,—and the crofts connected with them, into little ornamented domains?

THIS event would be greatly haſtened, if a Canal which was, ſome time ſince, propoſed by the good ſenſe and public ſpirit of Mr Gordon of Greenlaw, the ſheriff of the County, ſhould be drawn to open up a paſſage to veſſels from the mouth of the Urr, the Dee, or the Tarff, to the loch of Ken. This loch would be a fine baſon for the reception of ſuch veſſels. The tract propoſed for the canal has been examined, and an eſtimate of the neceſſary expence made out. The work would not be arduous; nor the expence greater than what the landholders, farmers, and merchants intereſted might eaſily raiſe. But, theſe people are unaccuſtomed, as yet, to any great effort of this nature. They dread engaging in any great moneyed concern, after the fate of the

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Ayr Bank. They know not, that, in England, the proprietors of canals commonly receive upon them, an intereſt for their money, not under 30 or 40 per cent. They ſeem not to have fully reflected on the neceſſity of opening up a country by roads and canals, in order to bring all its powers into full exertion, and to give a ſtimulus and free play to its induſtry.—But, it ſeems highly probable, that within a few years, not only this canal will be formed, but every proper means employed to open up enough of proper tracts of communication through a diſtrict, which, for want of theſe, has too long remained in a ſtationary condition,—as to improvement in wealth and induſtry.

Proceeding upwards from New Galloway, towards the ſource of Ken; within two miles, another tract of beautiful ſcenery opens to the view, interſected by the river, and incloſed, in the form of an amphitheatre, by the circumjacent hills. The river appears, advancing through a fine plain, or *holm*, cultivated on both ſides. Above, on the eaſt ſide, riſes the village of St John's Clachan, the houſes of which being irregularly ſcattered over a conſiderable ſpace of ground, produce a finer effect to the eye, than if they were arranged upon a more formal plan. The little crofts lying around them are all carefully cultivated. The gardens are green with pot-herbs,

pot-herbs, perhaps neatly ſurrounded with hedges, and ſheltered by rows of trees. The houſes have commonly thatched roofs. Yet, a ſlate-roof, here and there, diverſifies their appearance. Beneath the village, and cloſe upon the edge of the river, ſtands the church of Dalry, and near it the manſe, both decent buildings, and ſo ſituate as to produce a fine effect in the landſcape. On the weſtern bank are the houſe of *Waterſide;* the wooded vale through which *Comb burn* advances to join the Ken; the decent farm-houſe of *Glenlee* ſituate amidſt cultivated fields, and having wood ſcattered irregularly around it; the mill of *Glenlee*, in a ſituation ſufficiently pictureſque; and at a ſmall diſtance below, the houſe and ornamented grounds of *Glenlee-Park.*

GLENLEE-PARK is at preſent the ſeat of Lady Miller, the relict of the late Sir Thomas Miller of Glenlee, Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion. This houſe was enlarged and improved by the late Lord Preſident, not many years before his death. The grounds had a great deal of wild natural beauty in them; and the decorations by which he beautified them, are in ſo happy a taſte, as to render this one of the fineſt ſpots I have ever ſeen. They riſe with a very gentle ſlope from the bank. The ſurface is varied by many waving inequalities. The knolls are crowned with riſing wood. Many fine old,

old, buſhy-headed oaks are ſcattered ſingly over the lawn before the houſe. Some clumps have been planted, to ſcreen it, on the heights behind. The northern boundary of theſe grounds is a conſiderable ſtream, the *Park-burn*. It falls from the weſtern heights towards the river on the front of the houſe. At two ſeveral places in its courſe, both within the extent of theſe ornamented grounds, it pours, with a fine caſcade over a ledge of rock. After rains, when the ſtream is ſwollen, the body of water precipitated over theſe cataracts, and the noiſe of its fall, ſo ſtun the ear and amaze the eye, as to raiſe in the mind emotions of ſublimity and terrour. The pool formed by the daſhing water under one of theſe rocks has been fancifully denominated by the neighbouring peaſants HELL'S HOLE; and being very deep, is commonly reported among them to be bottomleſs. The courſe of this river is ſhaded by trees and underwood; and its banks riſe abruptly in ſome places to a conſiderable height above the channel. In a nook, where the rock ſeems to incroach upon the ſtream, a ſmall bathing-place has been built, the ſituation of which is ſtrikingly pictureſque.

AT a ſmall diſtance ſouthward, and upon the oppoſite ſide of the river, appears the houſe of Holm, the

the ſeat of Mr Spalding-Gordon, Sheriff of Wigton-ſhire.

Proceeding three miles farther, ſtill towards the ſource of the river, the traveller ſees another range of intereſting ſcenery open before him; and the houſes of *Barſkeech*, *Stranfaſket*, *Knocknalling*, *Earlstown* are all within view, nearly at the ſame time. A good extent of wood runs round each of theſe houſes. Parks of green paſture, fields of corn and potatoes, with orchards and kitchen-gardens are intermingled. The river animates the ſcene. The *burn* of *Polharrow*, with wooded banks, approaches from the north-weſt, between *Knocknalling* and *Stranfaſket*, to join the Ken.

On the ſouthern bank of this ſtream, on the ſide of *Stranfaſket*, a ſlate-quarry has been opened; but only opened. Here are very extenſive ſtrata of ſchiſtous rocks. The ſlates of this quarry are ſufficiently good in quality. The quarry might undoubtedly be wrought with ſufficient advantage. Yet, do theſe people ſtill continue to cover the roofs of their houſes with a periſhing covering of ſtraw, which it were much wiſer in them to reſerve for forage to their cattle; and ſuffer the *Welch* to import all the ſlates uſed in this country.

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At ſome diſtance above, riſe the *Buſh* hill, the *Millyeigh*, the Kells *Rhyns*, the higheſt hills in this part of the country. Amongſt theſe lie ſeveral ſmall lakes. On the north-weſtern confines, the *Dee* has its ſource. From one of theſe lakes, *Loch-Harrow*, iſſues *Pulhanewſhum* already mentioned. By an extraordinary eruption of water, a piece of ground was here moved, on this very ſeaſon, and but a few days before I viſited this neighbourhood, from one ſituation to another.

Here, too, is one of thoſe *rocking-ſtones* which are of vaſt bulk, and ſo poiſed on their centre of gravity, that although moveable by the finger even of a boy, yet the force of many men would be requiſite to move them from their place. Theſe ſtones are believed to have been engines of Druidical prieſtcraft. A conſiderable number of them have been diſcovered, in different places through the iſland. At *Stonehenge* is one of very great bulk. Another is to be ſeen in the neighbourhood of Perth. In a late volume of the *Archæologia* is a deſcription of ſeveral of theſe which are to be ſeen together, I forget in what place. *Maſon* in his *Caractacus* has made a happy uſe of this engine of Druidiſm.

Adjoining to theſe hills, on the ſouth-eaſtern ſide, are the remains of an old royal foreſt. The farm

within which it lies, is ſtill denominated the *Foreſt*. Theſe trees and underwood, are ſtill known among the neighbouring inhabitants by the appellation of the *King's Foreſt*. An adjoining farm is named *Altabeſtie*,—perhaps from *altabeſtiarum*. This probably was a hunting foreſt in the days of the ancient lords of Galloway. It became a royal foreſt, under the denomination of *New-Foreſt*, in the days, I believe, of King Robert Bruce. The Rangerſhip of it was afterwards granted to Sir *John Gordon* of *Lochinvar*. It now belongs to the eſtate of Sir William Millar of Glenlee. A road runs between this foreſt and the old caſtle of *Dundeugh*, ſituate ſome miles to the North-Eaſt. This caſtle, the ruins of which ſhew it to have been very ancient, ſeems to have been alſo a caſtle of the lords of Galloway. It was afterwards, with the eſtate connected with it, the property of a deſcendent of the family of Kenmure.

In this neighbourhood are two farms, *Caſtle-Maddre* and *Strong-caſtle* which, by their names, ſhould ſeem, to have had caſtles anciently ſituate upon them. The latter, if I miſtake not, ſtill ſhews ſome ruins of an old houſe or caſtle.

This country preſents none but wild proſpects to the traveller's obſervation: moraſſes; wide tracts

of

of heath; craggy hills; here and there a rivulet; and at wide diſtances, a few farm houſes. Hardly any agriculture is tried in theſe parts. The inhabitants are almoſt all farmers, or ſhepherds. Here and there appears a cairn, and here and there a barrow, *Carſphairn* Kirk is ſituate in a pretty ſpot among theſe hills. The river paſſes cloſe by it. A ſmall extent of green ground lies around. A little village is riſing beſide the Kirk. I remarked, in reading the inſcriptions on the grave-ſtones, in the church-yard, that almoſt every perſon whoſe memory was commemorated, had died at an age between eighty and an hundred. The ſhepherd life, the fare which this country affords, and the climate, ſeem to be here wonderfully favourable to longevity. When a free communication by good roads ſhall have been opened, in this direction, between Galloway and Ayrſhire, the village at Carſphairn-Kirk may poſſibly become more conſiderable.

On the confine between Galloway and Carrick appears *Loch-Doon*. In this lake is an iſlet; and on it the ruins of a caſtle named *Balloch*-Caſtle, a ſeat of the ancient Lords of Carrick. Carrick was originally a part of the principality of Galloway. At length, the lordſhip of Galloway fell to one branch of that family; and Carrick to the other. When the lordſhip of Galloway fell, by the marriage of

one heireſs to John Baliol of Bernard-Caſtle; the earldom of Carrick came, by the marriage of another heireſs, to Robert Bruce, lord of Annandale. *Balloch*-caſtle, in loch Doon, was probably a ſeat of this lady and her Engliſh huſband. A curious tale is told, that ſhe having met Robert Bruce, wandering like a young knight-errant, ſomewhere within her domains, carried him by a not unpleaſing violence, to her caſtle of Tunbury, on the weſtern coaſt of Carrick, and there detained him, till he agreed to marry her. The ſtory does honour to the captivating qualities of Bruce, and makes the lady little leſs than a Thaleſtris. But, I ſuſpect its truth.

At ſome diſtance from this lake, and upon the river Dee, between theſe farm-houſes, *Craig-an-ell*, *Craig-an-bay*, and *Craig-an-caillie*, is a tract of ground, partly moraſs, partly a dry flat of heath, which the tradition of the people of the country repreſents as the ſcene of a battle between Robert Bruce and the Engliſh. To countenance the tradition, ſome fragments of broken weapons were, not long ſince found here. The ſtory adds, that Bruce was powerfully aided in this battle by a ſtratagem of three ſhepherds or goat-herds of the country, of the names of *Murdoch*, *M'Kie*, *M'Lurg*. They brought a drove within ſight of the hoſtile army,——not fully, but ſo

that

that the distant sight of the horns, with their bleating, impressed the enemies with the idea, that a considerable force was advancing, to aid Bruce against them. They were panic-struck and left Bruce victorious. In gratitude to these by whom he had been thus seasonably assisted, Bruce granted them a considerable extent of land, either from his own patrimonial estate, or from the forfeited estates of Baliol.—One thing certain is, that three considerable families of the names of Murdoch, M'Clurg, and M'Kie had estates in these parts, till within these last fifty years. Indeed the family is still represented by *James Ross M'Kie* Esq. of *Pulgowan*.

The rocks in these places are schistous, whinstone, and grey granite. Rock-crystals have been found here and there, among the crags. On one hill, named the *Black-craig*, probably from the darkness of its aspect, when beheld, at a few miles distance, very fine rock-crystals have been occasionally formed. This whole tract of country shews hardly any thing else than heath, rock, and moss. Yet, I do not despair of seeing agriculture and manufactures make their way, in due time, into these sequestered recesses. A road is now forming between Newton-Douglas and New-Galloway, which opens up, much more fully than it has yet been opened, the country lying between these two little towns,

and

and will promote the improvement of the ground on both hands.

But although I ſhould rejoice to ſee theſe ſcenes adorned by more general cultivation, and occupied by a greater number of inhabitants, than at preſent: Yet, I am not ſure that growing population, and increaſing opulence would not introduce into them vices to which their preſent inhabitants are ſtrangers; and debauch, while they augmented the ſociety here eſtabliſhed: Philoſophers and politicians have lately racked their wits, and buſied their hands, to ſtimulate the induſtry, to multiply the enjoyments, and to increaſe the numbers of men. But, accurſed be that philoſophy! periſh that policy! which, in its care to make mankind richer and wiſer, ſcruples not to riſk or even to ſacrifice their piety and their virtue! When I conſider how crowded ſociety tends to make its members worthleſs, I am ſometimes almoſt tempted to fancy, that men were intended for hermits and ſavages. Yet, ſociety which refines and quickens ingenuity, while it exalts humanity muſt be the natural ſtate of man. But, not the thronged, compreſſed ſociety of the camp, of the great city, of the diſorderly manufacturing village. In ſuch ſituations human nature is degraded below itſelf. No wonder that living and writing, as he did, in the midſt of Paris, John James Rouſſeau ſhould have been

been led to maintain, that man was happier, more dignified, more independent in the ſavage ſtate, than in a condition of poliſhed civility. I have remarked that wherever manufactures flouriſh, and labour can be readily exchanged for the means of ſenſual gratification; the induſtrious part of the community are there peculiarly worthleſs. The inhabitants of this part of Galloway are, at preſent, undeniably virtuous without pretence, and pious without hypocriſy, above the people of almoſt any other part of Scotland. The conſideration of theſe ſeveral facts, therefore inclines at times, to fear leaſt thoſe improvements which one would otherwiſe wiſh anxiouſly to promote, may in truth rather injure than benefit theſe people. One virtuous ſhepherd or huſbandman is worth a ſcore of diſſipated manufacturing artiſans. Let thoſe then who actively promote the introduction of a new ſpecies of induſtry into this country, turn their attention at the ſame time, to provide againſt that influx of vice which may probably accompany it. I know of nothing that has been lately done for the purpoſe of correcting the morals of the poor, and preventing their depravation, except the inſtitution of Sunday Schools. In large manufacturing towns, theſe muſt be highly beneficial. And I ſhould ſuppoſe that, in ſome inſtances, it might be not unſerviceable to the ſame ends, if pains were uſed to keep ſome of thoſe

ſalutary

ſalutary obſervances of ſuperſtitions and dreams of enthuſiaſm, of which many of the clergy ſhew too great an earneſtneſs to relieve the people. Even within theſe laſt twenty years, within my remembrance, profane ſwearing has become much more common in the *Glenkens*; a reputation for purity of morals has loſt not a little of its value in the eyes of theſe people; the ſabbath has come to be much more careleſsly obſerved; the cenſures and admonitions of the church have loſt much of their authority. It is indeed true, that every age has its own virtues and vices. But not leſs true is it, that one age may have more numerous vices, and thoſe more enormous, than another. The vices to which theſe people are at preſent moſt liable, are far leſs injurious to the dignity and the happineſs of human nature, than thoſe which prevail among the labouring claſſes in great manufacturing towns.—I ſhould therefore wiſh to ſee villages and hamlets of manufacturing labourers ſcattered thick over theſe regions. But, I ſhould be ſorry ever to ſee here a *Birmingham*, a *Mancheſter*, or a *Paiſley* riſing.

From NEW-GALLOWAY *to* KIRKCUDBRIGHT.

AFTER ſpending a few very agreeable days in Glenkens, I ſet out to viſit other parts on the coaſt,

as well of Kircudbright-ſhire as of Wigton-ſhire. A tolerably good road, directed, for the greater part, in a judicious line, and ordinarily kept in a ſtate of ſufficient repair, leads from New Galloway to the next burgh of Kircudbright. It leads along the weſtern border of Loch Ken, under a ſteep and abruptly towering hill,—*Benin* hill. At the diſtance of four or five miles from New Galloway, it croſſes the Dee by a bridge of mean and awkward ſtructure. The ſurrounding ſcenery has little in it, either to aſtoniſh or to pleaſe the eye. Nothing is to be ſeen around but broad flats of heath, or hills riſing with no beauty of vegetation on their ſides, with no ſtupendous maſs, and with no awful elevation. The river Dee winds through theſe ſcenes; but is here a petty ſtream; and the natural wildneſs of the country incroaches unſoftened, on its very edges. The ſides of the highway are deformed by awkward ſtone dykes. Hardly a cottage meets the eye. The ſheep and black-cattle wandering around, although numerous, give hardly any thing of chearing animation to the ſcene. On one or two *braes*, indeed, ſome copſes of underwood appear to ſoften ſomewhat, the general appearance of wildneſs, bleakneſs, and barenneſs.

If, however, as the traveller proceeds, he turns his eye backwards, on the environs of Loch Ken,

and if the back-ground happens to be, at the moment, more ſplendidly illuminated, than the foreground, on which he ſtands; he will be delighted with the picture. The church, the manſe, ſome adjacent houſes, the trees and ſteeple of the town, ſome part of the holm below, and of the river, and its eaſtern bank, on the verge of the ſcene—compoſe the groupe of objects which he beholds; and it is impoſſible, without high pleaſure, to behold them thus contraſted with the black and bare foreground.

NORTH-EAST from this bridge over the Dee riſes the inſulated hill or promontory on which ſtands the houſe of Airds. It is ſituate in the angle formed by the junction of the Dee with the Ken. It is of no great height; but, as it has, on two ſides, theſe two rivers, on the third, it overlooks a tract of level heath conſiderably lower. It is ſkirted with wood. It ſpreads out, for a good many acres, in length and breadth. On the ſummit is ſome rich arable ground. It commands ſome fine views of the lower parts of the country, lying to the ſouth-eaſt. *Airds* was once the ſeat of a cadet of the family of Kenmure. Its later poſſeſſors have been already named.

ASCENDING the *Duchrey*-hill, immediately after croſſing the Dee, the traveller ſees an extenſive proſ-

pect

pect open, as he advances. But, although extenſive, it is not rich, nor intereſting. On one hand indeed is the village of *Lauriefton* or *Clachan-Pluck*, having before it a ſmall lake, and on one ſide a wood, embowering the manſion of *Mr Sloan-Laurie* of *Woodhall*. A little hut at the foot of the hill has been named *Belleiſle*, in conſequence of having been the reſidence of an old ſoldier who was proud of telling how that he had fought at the ſiege of *Belleiſle*. The lake abounds in thoſe freſh water fiſhes which are common in theſe parts; trout, perch, and pike. The village of Lauriefton has around it ſome ſpots of cultivated ground. A few ſtraggling trees grow among the gardens of the villagers. Below, is a wide tract of low lying, level heath; and beyond appear wild and lofty hills.

The old caſtle of *Kirkconnel* lies cloſe on the river *Tarff*. Near it, the hills begin to be clad with underwood. The banks of this river for the length of a mile or two, riſe boldly over it; and being, at the ſame time, covered with trees and wild ſhrubbery, preſent a ſcene ſufficiently pleaſing. A ſmall bleachfield lies fanciſully hid in a ſort of dell where the hills retire, and the river winds, ſo as to leave an acre or two of level ground upon the bank.

A FINE contraſt to the dreary ſcenery contiguous to Lauriefton, now opens to the view. The eye wanders with delight, over one of the richeſt vales in Galloway. On each ſide are green hills. Decent farm houſes, and wood, are irregularly ſcattered over the ſides. Below, flows on the Tarff, with a waving courſe, through rich meadows, and fertile corn-fields. On one hand are the houſes of *Barcaple*, of *Valleyfield*, and of *Largs;* On the other, the village of *Ringford*, and the decent farm-houſe of *Lintriggs*. The houſes are here, commonly covered with ſlate; the contiguity of the port of *Kirkcudbright*, rendering it eaſy for the inhabitants of theſe parts to obtain ſlates from Wales. This vale produces rich crops of oats, of barley, and of wheat. Abundance of turnips are alſo raiſed here: and cattle fattened for the ſhambles.

THE *Tarff* is divided from the *Dee*, only by a narrow ridge which terminates in a point nearly where the two rivers meet. This ridge has been expreſſively named *Tongueland*, and with ſome appendages, conſtitutes a pariſh. The road leading round this point, towards Kirkcudbright, paſſes over the Dee, by a bridge, at a very ſmall diſtance from the *Kirk* and *Clachan*, and from the remains of the ancient *Priory* of Tongueland, romantically ſituate cloſe upon the brink of the Dee.

THIS

THIS priory is one of the moſt ancient religious eſtabliſhments which the Regular Clergy of the Romiſh Church poſſeſſed in Galloway. Its ſituation, muſt have been, in thoſe days, at once ſequeſtered and ſecure. It is hid under the hill, and waſhed by the ſtream. If its inhabitants choſe to ſaunter up to the adjacent hill; they might there enjoy a fine proſpect of the bay into which the *Tarff* and the *Dee* pour their united ſtreams, of the beautiful vale of *Tarff*, and of the fine tract of ground extending up the eaſt ſide of the Dee. They appear to have had an excellent orchard. The Dee would afford them abundance of the fineſt ſalmon to be caught in Britain. The neighbourhood ſupplied that finely flavoured beef and mutton for which Galloway has been always famous. And they might raiſe grain on the adjoining land which is now found to repay moſt liberally the cares of the huſbandman. All theſe circumſtances rendered the ſituation no diſagreeable one for a monaſtery.

KING JAMES the Fifth, I think it was, who preferred to the priory of Tongueland an *Italian* friar whoſe name was of note in that age. He was an alchymiſt, a phyſician, a projector, a philoſopher. He was, for ſome time, in eſtimation at the Scottiſh Court. But, an unfortunate accident at Stirling covered him with diſgrace, and expoſed him to the coarſe,

coarſe, but pointed and forcible ſatire of *William Dunbar*, the poet. Among other merits, he made pretenſions to the Art of Flying, and propoſed to make wings with which he would riſe in the preſence of the King and the whole Court, from the battlements of Stirling-Caſtle, and fly to France. He made himſelf wings, fitted them to his body, and in the hope of invading the province of the winged tribes, mounted the battlements of the Caſtle; while the King and his Court looked on, to ſee him begin his flight. He waved his wings, and ſprung into the air, but to his own great diſappointment and mortification, but perhaps according to the expectation, and undoubtedly to the great diverſion of the beholders, inſtantly fell, and, as Dunbar ſays, ſank deep into a dunghill. I know nothing of the ſubſequent hiſtory of this Abbot of Tongueland; except that to account for the failure of his attempt to fly, he pretended, that he ſhould not have fallen, had he not unluckily intermixed the feathers of dunghill fowls with thoſe of eagles and the nobler birds: the ſympathy between the hen-feathers in his wings and the earth drew him down; had he uſed only eagle's-feathers in forming his wings, he ſhould have ſoared, like the eagle.—Theſe anecdotes have been collected by the late Lord Hailes, in his notes on Dunbar's Poems, publiſhed by him, from Bannatyne's manuſcript.

THE

The fiſhing of the Dee, at Tongueland affords not leſs than four hundred pounds of yearly rent to the proprietor. The fiſhes are chiefly ſalmons, and are eſteemed the fineſt that any river in Britain affords. They are taken not with nets, but by means of cruives formed acroſs the channel of the river, with apertures called *Doachs*, on the lower ſide. Theſe apertures are ſhut with ſmall valves which open, to admit the entering fiſhes, but ſhut behind them, and can by no effort of theirs be opened for their regreſs. On one or two days in the week, the *Doachs* are ſet open, ſo that the fiſhes may paſs up the river, for the benefit of the proprietors of the lands above. Complaints have been made againſt this practice of damming up rivers near where they join the ſea, to intercept the ſalmons in the progreſs upwards. It *is* a lucrative privilege to thoſe who poſſeſs it.

The town of Kirkcudbright is ſeen to great advantage from the height above the Kirk of Tongueland. The Tarff and the Dee meeting near, form between them, a noble body of water. The tide enters above the point of their junction, into each of the ſeparate ſtreams. Sloops with lime from the oppoſite coaſt of Cumberland, commonly advance as far up as to the foot of the Tarff for the convenience

nience of the farmers, who ſend their carts, by the roads which meet here.

On the weſtern bank of the *Dee* after it has been enlarged by the acceſſion of the Tarff, ſtands the old caſtle of *Cumſtan*, hid among wood. At ſome diſtance, within the country, on the eaſtern ſide, is *Bombay*, the ancient ſeat of the *Maclellans*, *lords Kirkcudbright*. *Loch Fergus* within which are the remains of an ancient caſtle, built probably by Fergus, one of the old lords of Galloway.—In all theſe parts, agriculture, and the feeding of ſheep, and black cattle are the chief cares of the farmer. The country naturally fertile, has been induſtriouſly cultivated; although not with that decorating cultivation which prevails in the richer counties of England. Few hedges appear, dividing theſe fields. The low ſtone-fence is almoſt the only one known here. Few clumps or belts of trees have been ſcattered about.—Yet, in ſpite of theſe diſadvantages, the country is beautiful. A tract of meadow and corn-fields adjoining to the town of Kirkcudbright, is let at a rent of from two to four pounds, an acre. Near the town, too, one ſees ſome proofs, that hedges are actually conſidered by theſe people, as a decoration to a country. But, even near the town are ſome wretched farm-houſes, or cottages, with thatched roofs, without chimnies, and having low, ill-

ill-built walls. But, a conſiderable ſhare of the grounds laying in this neighbourhood, belong to the eſtate of the Earl of *Selkirk*. And Lord Daer has lately ſhewn ſo much earneſtneſs to promote the improvement of the country, and ſo much ſkill and judgment, to accompliſh his purpoſe, although perhaps, with rather too much of the warm enthuſiaſm of a projector, that much may be hoped, for the removing of ſuch deformities as the above, from his exertions, and example.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT ſtanding in one of thoſe ſituations which naturally attract population, even in the earlieſt ſtages of ſocial life, appears to have been founded at a very early period in the hiſtory of Scotland. Its name ſeems to have been originally, rather *Cacrcudbrig*. *Brig*—in the northern languages, ſignifying equally with *burg*, a town; while *Caer* ſignifies a ſtrength or fortified place. The Danes would probably land occaſionally in their piratical invaſions of theſe coaſts. A very ancient caſtle ſeems to have ſtood here within the limits of a farm, now named from that circumſtance, Caſtle-dykes. From the Paſton Letters, publiſhed by Sir John Fenn, we learn, that Margaret, the magnanimous queen of King Henry VI. was at one time, at Kirkcudbright, in the courſe of thoſe troubles which

drove her to ſeek refuge and aid in Scotland. Kirkcudbright was erected into a royal burgh, and Maclellan of Bombay honoured with the title of Lord Kirkcudbright, about the year 1630. By the narrowneſs of its croſs ſtreets, and the aſpect of its houſes, it appears to have been built, nearly ſuch as it is, at preſent, in the courſe of the laſt century.

It conſiſts of one long, bending ſtreet, extending weſtward from the river-ſide. The houſes are, for the greater part, of decent ſtructure, conſiſting commonly, of two ſtories, and having their roofs flated. Several *cloſſes*, or narrow croſs ſtreets extend backwards, on both ſides. The inhabitants have gardens for fruits, and pot-herbs, lying behind their houſes; which being often ſurrounded with neat walls, and having trees riſing, here and there, round them, produce, in many inſtances, a very pleaſing effect. At ſome ſmall diſtance, north from the town,——indeed almoſt joining it, at right angles, is the ſuburb of *Mill-Burn*. At the weſt end of the town, and adjoining to the church, is the ruinous caſtle which was built originally by Maclellan, lord Kirkcudbright, but is now the property of the Earl of Selkirk. It has been a ſtately, ſpacious building for the time in which it was reared.

Kirk-

KIRKCUDBRIGHT, with the ſuburb of *Mill-Burn*, may contain from a thouſand to fifteen hundred inhabitants. It has never yet been the ſeat of any conſiderable trade or manufacture. At one period, indeed, conſiderable quantities of tobacco were imported and made up for uſe, here. A ſmall ſloop or two are ſometimes built here. Here are ſome merchants who trade with England, and ſometimes ſend out a ſmall veſſel for rum and ſugar, to the Weſt Indies. A few boats have been occaſionally ſent by the inhabitants of Kirkcudbright to the herring-fiſhery. Wines are imported into this place, but, I believe, not directly from the wine countries. Here is a cuſtom-houſe, with the neceſſary ſet of officers. This, being the principal town in the ſtewartry to which it gives a name, is conſequently the ſeat of the ſheriff-court, and of the practitioners of law, belonging to the ſtewartry. No inconſiderable ſum comes annually into Kirkcudbright from the adjacent country, as expences of law ſuits. Here are not fewer, I think, than twelve or fifteen writers; not to count their clerks. In the progreſs of the ſpirit of banking, through this country, two branches of two different Banks have opened offices in Kirkcudbright. I am, indeed, ſorry to obſerve, that, from the earneſtneſs with which people wanting money, ſeek to obtain credit, at any expence; and partly through the diſhoneſt arts of petty fog-

ging practitioners in law, banking-houſes have been multiplied to a number by far too conſiderable, in the petty country-towns, within theſe few laſt years. Not that, I ſuppoſe the writers of Kirkcudbright capable of ſeeking gains by any mean, or diſhonourable arts.

But, in other places, the practice has been this: A writer has, by ſome means or other, obtained ſecurity with a bank, for a ſum more or leſs; which has accordingly been put into his hands, to be employed in the diſcount of bills, and in the tranſaction of other buſineſs as an agent for that bank. He readily employs it, for theſe uſes. Whoever brings him a bill with valid ſecurities, obtains caſh for it. Here is one profit. If the granter, accepter, or indorſer of the bill cannot readily pay the ſum when it falls due to the diſcounter, ſo much the better: proteſts, charges, impriſonment inſtantly follow, to the much greater emolument of the worthy lawyer, who lately accommodated the poor ſo readily, than if the money had been punctually repaid. This is what has very frequently taken place in many parts through the country. Nay, it is the laſt ſhift of a pettifogger, when all other ſhifts fail, to begin this buſineſs of diſcount, and of dealing in money, in the name of ſome bank: and he never fails to gain enough of buſineſs after he has once fallen upon

upon this expedient.——Beſide being plundered in this way, the country people are, by the ſame unneceſſary multiplication of piddling banking-houſes, ſeduced to ſupply themſelves with money, by the ruinous expedient of WIND BILLS. Bankruptcy is the certain conſequence; or perhaps forgery is had recourſe to as a ſhift between the two: And the dabbler in bills, thus comes to terminate his career on the Gallows, or in Botany Bay.—Such a gambling in money and in paper credit has alſo other, not leſs unhappy effects on the condition of the country. It tempts the man without fortune to engage in an extent of traffic, and to live at an expence which a great capital would be requiſite to ſupport and to juſtify. They bring too large a ſhare of the real capital of the country into the fluctuation of trade; for, it will be found, that to maintain the ſecurity of a country, and, at the ſame time, to promote the proſperity, a very great ſhare of the property of that country ſhould be removed from the dangers and chances of traffic. However, where induſtry thrives, and the ſpirit of trade has eſtabliſhed itſelf, the accommodation which banks preſent, are, for a time at leaſt, convenient and advantageous. But, a poor and indolent people can never be enriched ſolely by the introduction of banks and banking-houſe contrivances among them.

Beside merchants, ſhop-keepers, officers belonging to the cuſtom-houſe, and practitioners in the law, the other inhabitants of Kirkcudbright are chiefly labourers, artiſans, and a few ſea-faring people. Here are one or two reputable practitioners in ſurgery. The ſchool is on a good footing. It was, not many years ſince, under the direction of a man of ability, worth, and reputation, now rector of the ſchool of Leith. The cotton manufacture has been lately tried here. The Engliſh gentlemen to whom Kirkcudbright-ſhire is indebted for this manufacture, wiſhed, at firſt, to eſtabliſh their works in the vicinity of Kirkcudbright. But, as they were, by what policy, or prejudices I know not, diſappointed here, they ſought an eſtabliſhment at Gatehouſe of Fleet, on the eſtate of Mr Murray of Broughton. The ſucceſs of that eſtabliſhment has rouſed a paſſion for the cotton manufacture, through this whole country. I know not but thoſe who refuſed to encourage the erection of a cotton-mill near Kirkcudbright, may have ſince wiſhed that they had rather been induced to promote it. The ſpinning of cotton yarn with thoſe ſmall machines *Ginnees* and *Mules* has been tried ſucceſsfully by ſeveral of theſe people. A company have formed a joint ſtock for eſtabliſhing a manufactory of cotton-cloth. And I think, I was told that they had yet greater things in project. A ſmall manufacture of ſoap and candles

dles has been alſo attempted here, within theſe few years. A tannery, which has enriched its proprietor, is of older eſtabliſhment. That new impulſe which the introduction of the cotton-manufacture has given to the induſtry of this diſtrict, has produced the firſt addition to the buildings of Kirkcudbright, which they have received within theſe laſt thirty or forty years. A new ſtreet is riſing;—— not indeed with that rapidity which ſtreets are *run up*, as if reared by the Genies of Aladdin's wonderful lamp, in the environs of London, Mancheſter, Edinburgh and Glaſgow.

KIRKCUDBRIGHT ſeems to have too little intercourſe with the adjacent country, and is not ſo plentifully ſupplied with proviſions, as it eaſily might be. It has no regular market for meal. Its fleſh-market is not ſupplied with all that abundance with good butcher-meat which a ſtranger might expect to find in it. On the river are ſome ſalmon-yards belonging to the Burgh, which are let, under the condition of the tackſman's ſupplying the burghers with fiſh, at a moderate price. But, theſe ſhores afford abundance of excellent ſea-fiſh of many different ſorts, which, if the population were more plentiful, might yield a rich ſtore of nouriſhing proviſions, now almoſt entirely neglected.—The ſalmon exported from Tonuegland and Kirkcudbright

to

to Liverpool brings a conſiderable ſum of money into the country.—An enterpriſing butcher, I ſhould think, might drive a good trade in the exportation of ſalt beef to the great trading towns on the weſtern coaſt of England.—Large quantities of corn, barley, and potatoes are annually exported from Kirkcudbright to England and to the Frith of Clyde.—A few enterpriſing and intelligent merchants and manufacturers, with ſuitable capitals, might, in ſeveral different branches of induſtry, and traffic, enrich themſelves, and improve this place mightily, within the ſpace of a dozen or a ſcore of years.—As a burgh, Kirkcudbright having conſiderable funds, and having alſo the property of ſome lands, has long been, in a great meaſure, independent of the neighbouring landholders. In conſequence of this advantage, the magiſtrates and the members of the town-council are men of great conſideration upon the return of every ſeptennial election: And I am rather inclined to ſuſpect, that the buſtle of Burgh-Politics, thus created, may have too much engaged the attention of the principal citizens, and thus rendered them too careleſs of the more lucrative concerns of trade.

The artiſans of this burgh are incorporated. The election of their deacons and conveners is often conteſted with wonderful keenneſs and artifice, and gives occaſion

occaſion to ſome days and nights of boiſterous feſtivity among them, in the courſe of the year. They ſometimes repair to an adjacent field, to ſhoot for a *ſilver gun*. This and ſome other exerciſes ſtill kept up among the inhabitants of ſome diſtricts, and of ſome of the towns in Scotland,—are memorials of thoſe times, when it was thought neceſſary for the inhabitants of Scotland to be prepared to defend themſelves, or to engage in the military ſervice of their country, whenever hoſtilities might be offered which ſhould call for ſuch oppoſition. *Shootings* at marks, and for prizes, uſed, even within my remembrance, to be common in the upper parts of Kirkcudbright-ſhire. But, the ſtrickneſs of the game-laws, the progreſs of the arts of peace, and care with which Government, for a while, thought it neceſſary to proſecute a plan for diſarming the people of Scotland, have all concurred to turn the common people from manly, and martial exerciſes; and unleſs we ſhall obtain a militia, an ordinary peaſant or mechanic in Scotland, will ſoon be little fitter to handle a gun, than a native of the *Pelew* iſlands.

The inhabitants of Kirkcudbright are undeniably a virtuous and intelligent people. The ſame thing takes place here, as in the upper parts of Kirkcudbright-ſhire,—but in a more conſiderable degree. The gentry and the well-educated part of the community bear a greater proportion in numbers to the

poor, the labouring, and the illiterate, than in moſt other places. Conſequently, their ſpirit and manners are predominant. A degree of liberal intelligence may be obſerved among the loweſt claſſes, ſuch as the ſame claſſes do not diſplay in many other places. The richer burghers, too, inſtead of thoſe habits and thoſe modes of life which diſtinguiſh the opulent citizens of great manufacturing and trading cities,—ſeem rather to take the tone of their manners from the neighbouring county gentlemen. Kirkcudbright affords an agreeable enough little circle of elegant ſociety. Public amuſements,—except an occaſional ball, are unknown here.—Here is a public library, the property of ſubſcribers, who are pretty numerous, and ſome of them gentlemen in the country, others inhabitants of this town. The collection of books is moſt judiciouſly formed, and is annually augmented with an addition of ſome of the beſt books newly publiſhed. It has already introduced a good deal of knowledge into this country, which it muſt otherwiſe have wanted. The late Mr William Laurie of Barnſoul, who was diſtinguiſhed among the gentlemen of this country, by his learning, his virtues, and his amiable manners, was principally active in forming this Library, and in regulating its concerns—I ſhould wiſh to ſee the reſpectable and intelligent gentlemen of theſe parts,—add, as they eaſily might, to this laudable eſtabliſhment,

ment of a public library,---the inſtitution of a Society for Improvements; and for the Inveſtigation of the Antiquities of Galloway. Such an inſtitution would naturally connect itſelf with the eſtabliſhment of the Library. It ſhould be ſelect. Its meetings need not be frequent, but might correſpond with the meetings of the Preſbytery,---of the Quarter-Seſſions,---or of the Commiſſioners of the Land-Tax and Supply; all which are held in Kirkcudbright. I deſpair not of living to ſee ſuch a Society inſtituted here.

The Preſbytery which meets here, takes its name from its ſeat. It conſiſts of the clergy of ſixteen adjacent pariſhes,---and,---as in the conſtitution of other Preſbyteries, of as many lay-elders. Theſe clergymen are as reſpectable a body, as perhaps any other preſbytery in Scotland. They are profeſſors of preſbyterianiſm in all its rational orthodoxy. They teach chriſtianity in its native purity and ſimplicity. They appear neither to encourage, with the arts or the prejudices of prieſtcraft, thoſe ſuperſtitions, and that enthuſiaſm to which the more uninſtructed part of the people are naturally prone;---nor yet, to overlook or neglect the ſervice which may be done to religion, by the proper uſe of this engine which the feelings and the miſtakes of the ignorant neceſſarily put into the hands of their in-

ſtructors. By preſerving this happy medium, they are enabled to maintain the authority of rational religion among their congregations.---They have the honour, too, of having occaſionally contributed to the introduction of the moſt remarkable improvements which have taken place in Kirkcudbrightſhire. Yet, in one or two inſtances, the ſuperſtitions of the vulgar have, even in theſe parts, been followed, and adopted, rather than corrected by their clergy. The Sect of the *M'Millanites* aroſe in Galloway. And, even lately the wildeſt ideas that have been ingrafted on Calvin's Expoſition of the principles of Chriſtianity have been preached from a pulpit not twenty miles from Kirkcudbright with a degree of forced warmth, of cant and of abſurd effuſion not at all creditable to the church, or to the country. Harrangues of an hour or two have been poured out before the morning pſalm in the ſervice. Extemporary prayers, accompanied with groans, and coughing have been continued for hours together. Crude, indigeſted ſermons, of immeaſurable length, ſtolen partly from the writings of the Puritans of laſt century have been delivered. On ſacramental occaſions, it has been contended among the preachers who could hold forth longeſt. And the ſervice has been prolonged at ſuch times for almoſt as long a ſpace as Vulcan was in falling from Heaven,—in Milton's words,

These practices were not a little disgraceful to the good sense and piety of those concerned in them. They seem to have originated in the imperfect education and the inexperience of the person who sought thus to distinguish himself. Good sense, good examples, and more enlightened piety have since taught him, as I believe, to avoid rendering religion contemptible and ridiculous in this way—The clergy of this district have found it prudent to admit some relaxation of the ancient severity of ecclesiastical discipline. They, no longer insist, with inflexible obstinacy, that those who have been confessedly guilty of violations of chastity shall do penance before the congregation. The principle upon which they have proceeded to relax this article of church-discipline, is partly a humane, partly an indolent one. They pity the feelings of compunction and shame which distress the most virtuous, rather than the other part of the culprits, upon such occasions: and they dislike the trouble which it often costs to bring a fornicator or adulterer, to confess, and *make satisfaction*. But, shame, or a sense of reputation, is one of the best friends to human virtue. This guardian the clergy should carefully encourage all their people to maintain about them. Most peasants and country girls will think it a matter of small consequence, whether they preserve their chastity or not, if there be no danger of their being brought

brought to open ſhame, in conſequence of forfeiting it. It may be thought a venial fault which ends in adding another member to the community. But, any perſon who has taken the trouble but of a little obſervation and reflection, may be ſatisfied, that whatever encourages unchaſtity, diſcourages marriage; and that marriage is the beſt law of the intercourſe between the ſexes, for promoting the increaſe of population.---Beſides, it is fooliſh, if any one fancies, that the father of a baſtard child will more readily confeſs his intercourſe with the mother, when freed from the fear of being rebuked before the congregation. To avoid the expence of an illegitimate child's maintenance, any man will with perjury deny his having taken pains to beget it, who would be guilty of the ſame perjury to eſcape a public rebuke for the fornication.——I have been informed, that ſome raw, unfledged advocates, pleading in caſes of child-murder, have preſumed to aſcribe the origin of this atrocious act of inhumanity to the fear of that diſgrace which is annexed to the idea of *ſtanding in the Kirk for fornication.* The reaſoning was ſilly and puerile. It is moſt commonly to avoid the trouble of parental duties, that unhappy beings ſuffer themſelves to be tempted to the commiſſion of this crime.---But, enough of breaches of chaſtity, and of church diſcipline.——

SOUTH-

South-East from Kirkcudbright, is the parish of *Rerrwick* or *Monkland*. This parish has a great share of its lands appropriated to the purposes of pasturage, although sufficiently susceptible of the improvements of agriculture. Here stand the remains of the ancient abbey of Dundrennan, the seat of a body of Regular Clergy of the Romish Church, who had large possessions in this southern part of Kirkcudbright-shire. In this abbey remained, not long since, monuments of some of the ancient lords of Galloway. *Raebury*-castle stands on the same side of Kirkcudbright.——These shores have long been famous, or rather infamous for smuggling. Salt, teas, brandy and rum, with various other goods are run in at the *abbey-burn foot*, near *Balcary*, and at other places, on these shores, and dispersed through the country.---It is worthy of observation, that the smugglers are not only men of the most worthless characters, but are hardly ever in the end successful in acquiring any little fortune by their illicit traffic.

Below Kirkcudbright, at a small distance, and directly south, is St Mary's isle, a small peninsula formed by the mouth of the Dee, on the one side, and a bay advancing inland on the other. It was once the seat of a Priory, consecrated to the Virgin Mary,---and is now the chief seat of the Earl of Sel-

kirk

kirk. The houſe I have never viſited. The grounds are elegantly laid out with abundance of trees, ſhrubbery, and winding walks, with ornamented borders. The citizens of Kirkcudbright are permitted to enter theſe walks, at their pleaſure. The family of Selkirk are among the moſt honourably deſcended in the South of Scotland: Allied to the chief families of the houſes of Hamilton and Douglas. Lord Baſil Hamilton grandfather to the preſent Earl of Selkirk, was one of the moſt reſpectable and intelligent of the patriotic nobility of Scotland about the begining of the preſent century.——Lord Daer is a promiſing young nobleman; an improver in agriculture; active in electioneering; one of the Friends to the People.

From KIRKCUDBRIGHT *to* GATEHOUSE *of* FLEET.

AFTER ſpending a day in Kirkcudbright which I had often viſited on former occaſions, I continued my journey weſtward. The Dee is croſſed in a Ferry-Boat. Cloſe upon the weſtern ſide is an inn and farm-houſe known by the name of *Caſtle-Sods*. The origin of this name I cannot trace. Here may perhaps have been raiſed upon ſome occaſion or other, a rude fortification of *turfs* or *ſods*. Near this inn is a brick-work; for although there be no deficiency

deficiency of ſtones in theſe parts: yet theſe people have learned to uſe bricks for partition-walls and other purpoſes, to which they are beſt adapted. At no great diſtance is a work which was once *wiſely* intended for a diſtillery of whiſky. A cotton-work is now about to replace the diſtillery.

THE lands are here rich and fertile, and are either laid out in graſs-parks, or in corn-fields. The agriculture is not unſkilful. But ſtill the lands are deformed by the low ſtone-fences common through the reſt of Galloway; and there are few trees and hedges. A tract of the richeſt ground in Galloway lies between the two rivers of *Dee* and *Fleet* in the lower part of the pariſh of *Twynholm*, the pariſh of *Borgue*, and the lower part, again, of the pariſh of *Girton*. *Borgue* juts out, into the Frith, forming a ſort of promontory. The *Rhoſs* of *Balmangan* forms a bay, affording ſufficient protection to veſſels. In the roads oppoſite to the mouth of the Dee, ſhips are indeed well protected by the headlands on the ſouth-eaſt and ſouth-weſt, while they have the land, to ſcreen them, upon the north.

THE names of men and of places on this coaſt, ſeem to be chiefly Daniſh and Saxon. The Danes, in their frequent invaſions of the weſtern coaſts of England, muſt have often touched here. They

commonly landed, upon every ſuch occaſion, on the iſle of *Man:* and this iſle lies full within view of this ſouth-weſt ſhore of Kircudbright-ſhire. The names, *Southwick*, *Sandwick*, *Alnwath*, *Rerrwick* are, in their origin, moſt probably *Daniſh*, or at leaſt of that ancient *Norſe*, of which the preſent *Icelandic* is the pureſt living branch. The name *Neſs*, occurring, too, with various ſyllables prefixed as a proper name on theſe ſhores, is undoubtedly from the ſame northern ſource. To the ſame origin am I inclined to refer the names *Brown*, *Sprott*, and ſome others ending in *Son*. Others of theſe names are Saxon in their origin; *Twynholm*, *Borland*, *Ingleſton*. Others more evidently Celtic; *Borgue*, *Airds*, &c. *Bar*, and *Dun*, or *Doon* are the uſual names for the hills. Many of the farms and farm-houſes have their names from thoſe by whom they were formerly occupied, with the addition of the Saxon *-ton; Campbelton*, *Kempelton*, *Conchieton*, *Biſhopton*—anciently, I ſuppoſe, the property of the Biſhops of Galloway.—To judge from the number of parochial diviſions which anciently marked this diſtrict; it ſhould ſeem to have been in thoſe days either more populous than at preſent, or perhaps, a great ſhare of it appropriated to the Church. Within the extent of the two preſent pariſhes of *Borgue* and *Twynholm*, were anciently the five pariſhes of *Twynholm*, *Kirk-Chriſt*, *Sandwick*, *Borgue*, *Kirkandres*.

kandres.—Expoſed to invaſion as theſe ſhores muſt anciently have been, it is natural to look for ſome ſcenes of warfare upon them. Within the eſtate of *Barwhinnock* is a fine hill named the *Bar*, the ſummit of which bears ſufficient marks of the rude fortification of the *Danes*, or *Anglo-Saxons*, to ſhew, that it muſt have been a military ſtation of one or the other of theſe people. It is well known, that thoſe who are moſt ſkilled in the Daniſh and the Saxon Antiquities of this iſland are at a loſs to diſtinguiſh the encampments of the Saxons from thoſe of the Danes, unleſs where ſome collateral hiſtory marks the diſtinction. The immediate vicinity of an *Ingleſton* leads me, however, to ſuſpect, that the encampment on the ſummit of the *Bar* of *Barwhinnock* muſt have been formed by the Anglo-Saxons. It might be a ſtation from which they could watch the approach of the *Danes;* and to which they could retire, when thoſe invaders advanced upon them. Beneath is one of thoſe *motes* which are ſuppoſed to have been the Saxon Tribunals.—At the diſtance of a mile or two, within the adjoining pariſh of Borgue, and in the farm of *Borland*, is another ſimilar ſcene of *Daniſh* or *Anglo-Saxon* encampment, named the *Doon*. *Ingleſtons* and *Borlands* are frequent in theſe parts. In almoſt every pariſh is an *Ingleſton* and a *Borland:* and what is likewiſe remarkable, in ſeveral farms, both a *Doon* and a *Bar*.

Cumstane-caſtle, on the weſtern bank of the Dee, a mile or two above Kirkcudbright, is of conſiderable antiquity, but, as to its hiſtory, I am uninformed. At *Kirkandres*, upon the weſtern ſhore of Borgue, the old lords of Galloway appear to have had a caſtle; for *John Baliol*, heir to a part of their eſtates, had a ſeat at *Kirkandres* which he muſt have inherited from them; and *Kirkandres* was one of thoſe eſtates which *Edward*, by a ſpecial deed, reſtored to him, after he had ſurrendered to that monarch, with the ſovereignty of Scotland, all his poſſeſſions in it.—It is worthy of notice, that the inhabitants of the diſtrict of *Borgue*, inhabiting a ſort of promontory, and divided, from neighbours, by the ſea, upon two ſides, were long regarded by the other people of this diſtrict as a ſort of peculiar, inſulated tribe. The families of the farmers had been ſettled there for many generations. They were all mutually related by intermarriages. They looked on their neighbours with averſion and contempt: a perſon of ſingular appearance or manners was commonly ſaid by the people of the adjacent country, to be *a Borgue Body*. If a ſtranger went, by accident, to ſettle among them, he and his family were —for a generation or two, regarded with the diſlike and ſuſpicion, and harraſſed with that joy over his loſſes and miſadventures, and that ridicule of every thing in which his manners and œconomy

differed

differed from theirs,—which barbarous tribes, ſecluded from the intercourſe of civilized life, yet in no want of relief from diſtreſs, or of a ſupply of the neceſſaries of ſubſiſtence,—have been often obſerved to exhibit towards ſtrangers.—Yet, theſe people were, at the ſame time, of pure morals, ſober, pious, induſtrious, ſome of them opulent, living by the ſale of their corn and cattle, and uſing few articles either of food or of clothing, which were not of the produce of their own farms, or the manufacture of their own hands. They were, at the ſame time, not a little addicted to ſmuggling. I take them to have been a more unmixed race either of Danes or of Anglo-Saxons, than remained in any other part of this country. They have, within theſe laſt twenty years, been gradually more and more intermingled with their neighbours, and aſſimilated to them in character, by the adoption of their cuſtoms, faſhions and manners.

The agriculture of theſe parts is faſt advancing in improvement. Lime is imported, in great abundance, from Cumberland, and is ſold on the ſhore, at the price of a ſhilling or thirteen pence for the Winchester buſhel. Shells and ſea-fleech are found in great plenty on the coaſt, and form a very valuable article of manure. Various marl-pits have alſo been opened here and there, in the moraſſes. A

large white-faced ſpecies of ſheep were, a good many years ſince, introduced here. Theſe are fed for the butcher, and ſold at a guinea or thirty ſhillings each. Their mutton is in flavour and reliſh inferior to that of the ſmall, old Galloway breed. Of their wool, ſome portions are ſingularly fine: others coarſe and hairy. They are named *mug*-ſheep; and *mug*-wool is in great requeſt for ſtockings. The black-cattle are either Iriſh, of vaſt bone, and having large horns;—or of the famous Galloway breed, rather ſmall in ſize, well-ſhaped, and without horns. They are not commonly bred here, but are bought in, at the cattle markets, *Stirks*, or *Cuddochs*, and after being fed for a year or two, are ſold off to the butcher, or rather to the cattle-dealers who carry them to the Engliſh markets. The horſes common here, are ſtout draught-horſes, valued at—from ſixteen to five and twenty pounds Sterling. Their ſituation near the great highway between London and Portpatrick, and the rich paſture which theſe lands on the coaſt afford—give the farmers here, great advantages in the feeding and the ſale of cattle. Some of the fineſt cattle ſent from Galloway to England, have been from the pariſhes of Borgue and Twynholm.

The general attention to the management of cattle has rendered the inhabitants of theſe parts more negligent

negligent than they might have otherwiſe been, of agricultural improvements. With abundance of the beſt manure to lay upon a ſoil, ſometimes kindly, ſometimes deep, but almoſt every where of great natural fertility; they could not avoid raiſing rich crops of oats, and barley. But, hardly have any of them adopted the moſt advantageous rotation of crops. They are obſtinately attached to the old modes of agriculture. They ſeem to have a ſort of inſtinctive averſion to trees, ditches, and hedges. Indeed trees, ditches, and hedges do not anſwer ſo well—perhaps as the Galloway ſtone-dyke, in paſture-grounds for cattle. And, it muſt be confeſſed that, although both cattle and grain can be well ſold from theſe parts, yet the cattle can often be diſpoſed of, with the greater advantage.—I can think, therefore, only of two or three expedients for promoting the progreſs of agriculture here: 1. Let the large farms be ſubdivided, and let to families of ſmall tenants, who may juſt ſupport themſelves eaſily, and pay their rents out of the produce of their farms. Theſe families of ſmall tenants, being more in each family in proportion to the quantity of land which they poſſeſs, than if the ſame family poſſeſſed a great farm, will till and cultivate a greater proportion each of their reſpective farms, in order to find labour by which they may earn the means of ſubſiſtence.—*James M'Millan Eſq. of Barwhinnock* has exhibited

eſtabliſhed on his eſtate a fine proof of the tendency of this plan of œconomy to promote the progreſs of agriculture: He ſubdivided into a number of farms of moderate extent, an eſtate which might be anciently poſſeſſed wholly by the ſame perſon. He has formed theſe ſubdiviſions by good fencible ſtone-dykes, planting, with taſte and judgment, lines of oaks, aſhes, and pines, along theſe dykes. He has built ſuitable farm and office-houſes; and has commonly carried the ſubdiviſion ſo far, that a family of three or four perſons are ſufficient, with a proper number of cattle, to cultivate each farm. The conſequence is, that, the whole eſtate has thus aſſumed, comparatively, the aſpect of a garden: Three or four times as many people as formerly, find employment and comfortable ſubſiſtence upon it: Three or four times the quantity of grain is now raiſed: As many cattle are fattened: Fewer ſheep indeed are fed: Much more of the produce of the eſtate is conſumed upon it than before; And much more is at the ſame time, exported from it. 2ndly. The next expedient is undoubtedly the introduction of manufactures, which may ſcatter a little village or hamlet—almoſt for every farm-houſe that is at preſent, over this country. Theſe requiring at once for ſubſiſtence the produce of agriculture and of the dairy, with animal-food from the ſhambles would enable agriculture to draw more

particular

particular attention than at preſent. More of the produce of the country would be conſumed within it. Inſtead of furniſhing proviſions to the inhabitants of other parts, Galloway would then furniſh clothes. Its STOCK would conſiſt, not as now in cattle and ſheep, but in a nobler ſpecies,—in men and women, manufacturers and labourers. This effect the introduction of the cotton-manufacture is likely to produce—in part, at leaſt. 3dly. Every landholder ought to retain under his own management, a certain number of his acres, and to appropriate theſe excluſively to agricultural improvements; indifferent, although he might be a loſer by the event of many of his experiments; provided that he ſucceeded in ſome, and could promote gainful improvements in the agriculture of his tenants. 4thly. In every leaſe, certain regulations favourable to the agriculture of the grounds let, ought to be carefully inſerted.—It muſt be acknowledged that the landholders in general of theſe parts begin to turn their attention more and more to the advancement of agriculture. By the end of the century, all the lower parts of Kirkcudbright-ſhire will probably exhibit ſcenes of as rich and beautiful cultivation, as any in Scotland.

THERE are ſome articles of ſtock which I think too much neglected. The great quantities of pota-

toes raiſed in theſe parts have ſuggeſted the advantage of keeping hogs. Theſe are ſometimes killed for domeſtic uſe, ſometimes ſent to Dumfries and other towns for ſale. I have been told, too, that the Dumfriſians are ſilly enough to ſend the pork which they have killed to be cured for bacon-hams in Cumberland; from which theſe hams are re-imported to Dumfries. Now I ſhould think that great quantities of ſwine might be very profitably fed, killed, and cured here, and in the ſtate of hams exported to Liverpool, to Edinburgh, to Glaſgow, and to other places. Thoſe hogs which were firſt introduced here, were a ſmall race which afforded very delicately flavoured pork and bacon. But, a larger breed, weighing, each, when fattened and full-grown, from four to five hundred-weight, have ſince been tried; and although their fleſh be greatly inferior to that of the ſmaller race, theſe people ſeem generally diſpoſed to prefer them. But, this is a fooliſh preference; for, being larger, they require more food than the ſmall race; and although their meat were equally tender and well-flavoured; yet would they not be more profitable: Since their fleſh is inferior; they are, undeniably, leſs ſo. Thoſe who preſerve the careaſes for domeſtic uſe, may be aſſured, that the meat of the large breed, is much ranker and more unwholeſome. Here is abundance of poultry; the common domeſtic hen; geeſe; ducks;

ducks; turkies. Were the peacock, an article of eating, as much admired at the luxurious tables of modern times, as it was by the practical Epicureans among the ancient Romans; the inhabitants of theſe parts might eaſily rear ſuch large numbers of peacocks, as to enrich themſelves.

ALTHOUGH comparatively bare of wood; yet the country between Kirkcudbright and Gatehouſe of Fleet exhibits ſeveral agreeable enough ſcenes. The houſe of *Barwhinnock*, ſeen from the highway which paſſes by Twynholm-Kirk, with the ornamented grounds about it; the little clumps of larches, ſilver-firs, and other pines ſcattered near; and the numerous ſnug-looking, ſmall farm-houſes interſperſed; with the two oval hills, the *Bar* and the *Doon*, limiting the foreground, on the eaſt and the weſt ſides---form all together, a very intereſting landſcape. The Church of Twynholm below, the manſe, the glebe in a fine ſtate of cultivation, and a little village named from the church, and half-hid in an adjacent glen---compoſe another cheerful, animated proſpect.

ADVANCING, by this road, we ſoon after diſcover, on the left hand, the houſe of *Gategill*, with ſome wood and cultivated fields around. And nearly at the ſame time, the fine vale of *Fleet* is diſ-

covered to the eye. I have ſeen few ſcenes naturally more beautiful, and few more highly ornamented than this. Within the bounds of one landſcape, the eye beholds the river Fleet diſcharging itſelf into the Firth; the houſes of *Bardarroch*, of *Ardwell*, of *Cally*, the beautiful and populous village of *Gatehouſe*, and the ancient caſtle of *Cardinſs*, with a large extent of adjacent country, either cultivated, and thick-ſet with farm-houſes, with abundance of wood interſperſed, or—towards the extremities of the proſpect—wildly pictureſque.

Cally-houſe is the principal ſeat of *Mr Murray* of Broughton, whoſe eſtates in this neighbourhood are very extenſive. It is a large, modern building, ſituate on the plain, on the eaſtern bank of the Fleet. The apartments are numerous, ſpacious, well-proportioned, elegantly furniſhed, and poſſeſſing eſpecially ſome fine paintings. The circumjacent grounds are laid out and decorated with great taſte. Immediately around the houſe, the lawn is left open. The office-houſes, forming a large ſquare, are removed to a convenient diſtance. The gardens are divided from the houſe and the office-houſes, by the road running between the village of *Gatehouſe* and the pariſh-church. They are incloſed within high-walls. The extent is conſiderable. No expence has been ſpared to accommodate them to the ſtately elegance

of

of the houſe, and to the dignity and fortune of the proprietor. They contain green-houſes and hot-houſes, with all that variety of foreign herbs and fruits which, in our climate, theſe are neceſſary to cheriſh; abundance of all the riches of the orchard, all the beauties of the parterre, and all the uſeful plenty of the kitchen-garden. They are dreſſed at a great expence. When the family reſide not here, all the country round, as far as Dumfries, are ſupplied with abundance of fruits from theſe gardens.—— Where the road running between the village and the church paſſes through theſe pleaſure-grounds, it is lined with trees. Every deformity within theſe grounds is concealed, or converted into a beauty by wood. Every where, except at proper points of view, theſe environs are divided by belts of planting from the highways and the adjacent country. Many fine ſwells diverſify the ſcene. Theſe are crowned with fine clumps of trees. Within the extent of the pleaſure-grounds is a houſe occupied by a farm-ſervant, which has been built in the faſhion of a Gothic Temple, and to accidental obſervation has all the effect that might be produced by a genuine antique,—South from the houſe of *Cally*, is a deer-park, incloſed within a high and well-built wall, and plentifully ſtocked with fallow-deer. The lands adjoining on the ſouth and ſouth-eaſt are commonly well incloſed within hedges, or decent, dry ſtone-

walls,

walls. The farm-houſes are very decent buildings, and almoſt all covered with ſlates. To the north, riſe hills, bare of wood, but, on the front, green, gently ſloping, and conſiderably cultivated. Sheep and black-cattle wander in great numbers, over ſuch parts of theſe ſcenes as are not occupied by corn, potatoes, and other articles of crop.

Gatehouse of Fleet.

WITHIN the remembrance of ſeveral now living, there was only a ſingle houſe on the ſeat of this fine village. It was the ſcene of a conſiderable market, held, once a fortnight, for a certain number of weeks in the end of harveſt, and the beginning of winter. Lying on the great road from Dumfries to Portpatrick, and at a conſiderable diſtance—ten or twelve miles---from Carlinwark, the laſt good inn on this road; it was naturally, a proper ſituation for an inn. An excellent inn, with a ſuitable yard and offices, was built. A ſmith and a few tradeſmen were equally neceſſary. The vicinity of the inn, and the highway, with the advantage of the well frequented markets, rendered it a ſituation promiſing enough for a ſhop-keeper or two. To a great land-holder, it would naturally be honourable and agreeable to have labourers, tradeſmen, and

ſhop-

ſhop-keepers, near his principal ſeat, that they might be ready to perform a variety of little ſervices which his houſehold would neceſſarily demand. It would be no leſs worthy his care to provide ſhop-keepers, labourers, artizans, &c. for the accommodation of his tenants, upon his own eſtate. The ſituation was one of thoſe which ſeem intended by nature for the ſeats of towns: In a beautiful, and fertile vale; by the ſide of a fine river; ſo near where that river diſcharges its waters into the adjacent Frith, that it might eaſily become a ſea-port town; and in a neighbourhood where the principal articles of proviſion were ſo plentiful, as to be the chief or only articles of export. With theſe advantages of ſituation, and through the influence of circumſtances *already begun*,---nothing could be more natural or proper than for the proprietor of theſe ſcenes, to think of raiſing a town here.

ACCORDINGLY, as Mr Murray built his own ſpacious ſeat, he invited inhabitants to ſettle and form a village here, by offering very advantageous terms of feu. A plan for a village was formed by his direction: and the feuars were required to build their houſes in a certain order, and of certain dimenſions. the ſpot which was marked was a fine plain, not more than a mile diſtant from Cally-houſe, cloſe by the inn and the ſcene of the markets, and on the highway.

highway. Two ſtreets were marked out, divided from each other by intervening gardens. The one, named the *fore-ſtreet*, and lying along the highway, was to have all its houſes two ſtories in height and covered with ſlates. Thoſe in the *back-ſtreet* might be meaner in their ſtructure and dimenſions, but were to be equally orderly in their arrangement.

THE ſituation, and the advantages offered, were ſufficiently inviting. The enlightened and public-ſpirited proprietor had ſoon the pleaſure of ſeeing a fine village riſe near his principal ſeat; more orderly in its arrangement, more uniformly handſome in its buildings, happier in its ſituation, than---perhaps any other village in Galloway. Attempts were ſoon made to render it a ſeat of trade. A Company engaged in the eſtabliſhment of a tannery here, with ſufficient ſucceſs. Another Company tried to eſtabliſh a wine-cellar, and to import wines, at this port, to ſupply the gentlemen of the county: a trade which, if I am not miſtaken, has been ſince relinquiſhed. Mr Murray, at no inconſiderable expence,---either formed a ſhort canal, or deepened and widened the channel of the Fleet, (for, indeed, I cannot, with certainty, recollect which) ſo as to form a paſſage by which ſmall veſſels might advance from the Frith, almoſt cloſe up to the village.

MEANWHILE,

MEANWHILE, the richer cottagers were invited from the adjacent country, by the haughty proſpect of becoming *Lairds* in Gatehouſe. Mr Murray had occaſion to throw ſome ſmaller farms together; and this circumſtance drove ſeveral families from the country into Gatehouſe. The local advantages brought the tradeſmen and ſhop-keepers at Gatehouſe into a thriving condition; and this naturally allured others to repair from the adjacent *clachans* and hamlets to ſettle in the ſame ſeat. Tanners, glovers, weavers, ſhoe-makers, ſailors, maſons, carpenters, butchers, bakers, alehouſe-keepers, day-labourers, ſmugglers were thus brought together in Gatehouſe. The pariſh ſchool was transferred hither. And although in one or two inſtances, the attempts to augment its opulence and population might miſgive; yet in the whole, it continued to advance with wonderful ſucceſs.

THUS was it advancing, when *Meſſrs Birtwhiſtle*, gentlemen who had for ſome time before, dealt largely in cattle purchaſed from Kirkcudbright-ſhire, and had lately become proprietors of an eſtate, in the neighbourhood of Kirkcudbright,—propoſed to eſtabliſh a cotton-work here, and obtained a ſuitable leaſe from Mr Murray. *It was ſaid*, that theſe gentlemen had previouſly applied to the Earl of Selkirk for a leaſe of grounds near Kirkcudbright, on which

they might have erected their cotton-work; but that his Lordſhip apprehending, that an Earl's manſion might be diſgraced by the vicinity of an eſtabliſhment of manufacturing induſtry, rejected their offers with earneſtneſs.

More ſucceſsful in their application to Mr Murray, they immediately built a large fabric, at a great expence, at the weſtern end of the village. Water to drive the machinery, by the apparatus of wheels and cranks, was to be brought from a lake, ſeveral miles diſtant, among the hills to the north-eaſt,—by an aqueduct, to the expence of forming which Mr Murray contributed: The Fleet lying too low to to leave it poſſible to obtain water from it which might be conveniently raiſed to ſuch a height as to command the wheels. Every difficulty was overcome. The works were prepared; and the manufacture begun. The poor people in the immediate neighbourhood, although numerous enough, were however ſo little accuſtomed to any thing like the regular induſtry of manufacture, that they could not at firſt be perſuaded to apply to the employment which this eſtabliſhment afforded, for reaſonable wages. Thoſe in the neighbourhood again who had proviſions to ſell, had fancied that they might now obtain for ſuch articles, any extravagant prices they ſhould chuſe to aſk. But labourers ſoon flocked from

from Ireland and other places, to perform that work which the good people about Gatehouſe could not be induced to perform: And the importation of butter, cheeſe, and ſome other articles of proviſion from a diſtance ſoon brought the farmers of the neighbourhood to reaſon. The returns anſwered the wiſhes of the adventurous undertakers. The money circulated, ſerved to enrich, and to quicken the induſtry of the whole country-ſide. And, there was ſoon an enthuſiaſm among all to be employed about the *cotton-mill*, and to contribute to the ſucceſs of the manufacture.

The increaſe of opulence, the growth of population and the riſing activity of induſtry have, through theſe means, been aſtoniſhingly rapid and powerful. A ſecond large edifice for a cotton-work, has been erected by Meſſrs Birtwhiſtle. Another has likewiſe been built by a Mr M'William. All intended as houſes only for the ſpinning of cotton yarn. By that machine, named a mule, between forty and fifty pounds of cotton-wool are made into yarn in a week. For, many have been induced to try this manufacture, who could not erect cotton-mills, and were therefore obliged to content themſelves with ſpinning *mules* and *Ginnees*. A maker of theſe machines has ſettled here. A Braſs-foundery has been alſo eſtabliſhed here, to

ſupply thoſe articles of wrought braſs which are neceſſary to the conſtruction of the ſpinning and weaving apparatus. Three hundred pounds of cotton-wool are ſpun into yarn in the week in the large cotton-work of Meſſrs Birtwhiſtle. Three hundred perſons are employed in the labour; of whom two hundred are children; and fifty pounds of weekly wages are paid. On the *Gimnees*, a hundred pounds of cotton-wool are ſpun in the week. This yarn is all ſold at Glaſgow,—and in the neighbourhood:—— For the weaving of cotton-cloth begins to be carried on here with little leſs earneſtneſs and ſucceſs than the ſpinning of cotton-yarn. Nor is the ſpirit of the cotton-manufacture now confined excluſively to Gatehouſe. It ſpreads faſt through the whole country. Every perſon who can ſpare money enough to purchaſe a mule or a Gimnee, and a little raw cotton to begin with; eagerly turns Cotton-Spinner. The country weavers too either purchaſe yarn and make cotton-cloth for themſelves—for which they find a ready ſale,—or are employed by the manufacturers of Glaſgow or of Gatehouſe, to weave cotton-cloth for them. The ploughman forſakes his plough, the ſchoolmaſter lays down his birch, the tanner deſerts his tan-pits, the apothecary turns from the compoſition of pills, and the mixing of unguents; and all earneſtly commence ſpinners of cotton-yarn or weavers of cotton-cloth.——

THE village of *Gatehouſe* has thus been greatly enlarged, within this ſhort time, by the addition of new ſtreets, and the extenſion of thoſe which had been before begun. Its inhabitants are multiplied to the number of fifteen hundred. It has even been extended to the weſtern ſide of the river *Fleet*, with which there has been long an open communication by an excellent bridge. A library has been formed here, on the plan of that of Kirkcudbright, begun upon a fund of twenty pounds raiſed by ſubſcription, and to be maintained, and enlarged by the payment of two ſhillings quarterly, by each proprietor. Here is a maſon-lodge, too---for free-maſonry is a hobby-horſe with ſome of theſe people,---to which no fewer than ſeventy members belong. Proviſions are laid in to their labourers by Meſſrs Birtwhiſtles and Co. The wages are paid once a fortnight. The labourers do not all ſquander their money, as it is acquired; ſome of them begin to accumulate property. In their Sunday's array, they are well-dreſſed. Marriages are frequent. The price of coals has riſen conſiderably here as in other places in this ſeaſon. The coals are from White-haven. Peats are ſent in for ſale, by the farmers on the contiguous muirs. Garden-ſtuffs are to be had in abundance from *Cally*. Many more veſſels now frequent the harbour.

I WISH I could honeſtly add, that the morals of theſe good people have been improved with their circumſtances. But proſtitution and breaches of chaſtity have lately become frequent here. Tippling houſes are wonderfully numerous. I was informed by the intelligent exciſeman of the place, that not fewer than an hundred and fifty gallons---of whiſky alone---had been conſumed here for every week of the laſt ſix months. The licentiouſneſs of Gatehouſe affords frequent buſineſs for the neighbouring Juſtices. The Clergyman of the pariſh has found it neceſſary to act both as a Juſtice of the Peace and as a Clergyman; and although exceedingly active in the former of theſe capacities, has yet found it too hard for him to reſtrain the irregularities of theſe villagers. An aſſiſtant has been employed to aid him in the diſcharge of his clerical functions. Yet, both the pious aſſiduities of his aſſiſtant, and his own labours, clerical and juridical, have proved inſufficient to maintain among the manufacturers of Gatehouſe, all that purity of morals and decorum of manners which might be wiſhed. Marriages are indeed ſo frequent that the clergyman has found it occaſionally neceſſary, for the ſake of diſpatch, to diſpenſe with the ordinary ceremonies of the church.---A ſunday ſchool has been inſtituted for the inſtruction of thoſe children who are employed at the cotton-work through the week:

And

And I am pleaſed to relate, to the honour of Mr M'William, who is the moſt conſiderable cotton-ſpinner in Gatehouſe, after Meſſrs Birtwhiſtle, that he pays the teacher for the Sunday inſtruction of the children of all his own workmen.

As a moraliſt, I cannot but regret that crowded population, and the proſperity of manufactures ſhould be ſo invariably attended with the extreme corruption of the lower orders. In this mind I ſhould not wiſh to ſee Gatehouſe increaſe greatly above its preſent population: and I would gladly ſee ſome expedients uſed to reſtrain the growth of vice, in a village, where, but for vice, want and idleneſs might be unknown. It has been the great errour of the politicians and philoſopers of the preſent age, that, in their care to multiply the numbers, to ſtimulate the induſtry, and to increaſe the opulence of mankind, they have overlooked the important concern of checking their vices, and of encouraging their declining virtues. This concern belongs to the politician, not leſs than to the Divine and the Moraliſt. The inſtitution of Sunday ſchools is almoſt the only thing that has been done, in the preſent time, towards preſerving a ſenſe of religion and of decent morals among the poor. The lord of the manor and the principal manufacturers about Gatehouſe might alſo uſe means to enforce a due attendance

dance on public worſhip among all, whether old or young. They ought to eſtabliſh a ſtrict police. Men habitually addicted to drunkenneſs, and women abandoned to proſtitution ought to be invariably diſcharged from employment, and diſmiſſed out of the village. The wages ought not to be paid oftener than monthly. The manufacturers ought to provide for their workmen---the more neceſſary articles of ſubſiſtence; meal, butcher's meat, &c. Some ſmall part of the wages of every labourer ſhould be ſaved for him, to the end of the year; and intereſt be paid him upon it. The labourers ſhould be perſuaded to eſtabliſh a common fund, formed by the contributions of all who are in health to labour, and deſtined to relieve the wants of the ſick and the infirm. The uſe of whiſky ſhould be diſcouraged; and good malt liquors,---ale and porter introduced in its ſtead. I will even venture to ſuggeſt, that the eſtabliſhment of an Antiburgher or Cameronian meeting-houſe might have no bad effect here. I ſhall add, that it might be better, if Mr Murray, the manufacturers, and the neighbouring gentlemen ſhould be induced rather to encourage the formation of other villages, at the diſtance of every five or ſix miles, than to promote the farther increaſe of Gatehouſe.——

THE

THE vale of *Fleet* is beautiful, for a good many miles above Gatehouſe. Rough, heath-clad hills riſe, indeed, on both ſides; but, the lower declivities, and the intermediate plain are fertile, cultivated, and adorned with large tracts of wood. At *Caerſtranman*, Mr Murray has a handſome hunting-ſeat, on the eaſtern ſide of the river, and about four or five miles above Gatehouſe. On the weſtern ſide of the *Fleet*, and at nearly an equal diſtance from the village, is *Ruſco*, once a ſeat of the Viſcounts of Kenmure. The houſe is large, and ſtill habitable. Northwards are a range of wild hills, affording paſture to ſheep and goats, and having a few ſhepherd's huts ſcattered over them. The Highlands of Scotland have no ſcenes of higher beauty, than what the vale of Fleet diſplays; and they have hardly any wilder than the hills among which this river takes its riſe.

IT ſhould ſeem that ſome mineralogiſt had once examined theſe and the adjacent hills of *Carſphairn*, in ſearch of precious ſtones or metals. For, I remember hearing among the old people in the neighbourhood, indiſtinct tales of a ſtranger who ranged thoſe mountains, and who, by a ſimple proceſs, uſed to convert the ſtones into gold and ſilver. They added, that, he propoſed to Government to furniſh the expence for the maintenance of a regiment; if

he might be permitted to continue his reſearches and his labours; but could not obtain this permiſſion, and was obliged to leave the country. By their accounts, he was either an alchymiſt, or a coiner of baſe money. His name I remember not. The whole tale was indiſtinct and confuſed, and was ſimply a vulgar tradition.

SINGING is the common amuſement of the maids in the farm-houſes of theſe paſtoral regions, over their ſedentary work. I have heard from the old women, ſome of the beſt and rareſt of the ſongs in Dr Percy's Collection, and in the collection publiſhed by the late Lord Hailes from Bannatyne's manuſcript. But, I know of few ancient ſongs that can be aſcertained to be the native productions of Galloway. There is one, named *the Shepherds of Galloway*, celebrating the praiſes of the country, and commemorating ſeveral of the vulgar traditions of its hiſtory. *Love Gregory*, *The Earl of Caſſilis' Lady*, *Young Beechom*, *Robene and Makyne*, *Gill Morrice*, *Young Logie*, and ſome of the ſatirical pieces of Dunbar, are the chief favourites with the old people. Almoſt within my remembrance, *Davie Lindſay* was eſteemed little leſs neceſſary in every family, than the Bible. It was common to have, by memory, great part of his poetry. I neglected to mention, in its proper place, that the *Dee*, near the *Kirk* of

Tongueland

Tongueland is ſaid to be alluded to, in the well-known Scottiſh poem of *the Cherry and the Slæ;* and that the author is ſaid to have lived ſomewhere in the neighbourhood. But the ſame honours have been claimed to the Tay.

TALES of Ghoſts, Brownies, Fairies, Witches, are the frequent entertainment of a winter's evening, among the native peaſantry of Kirkcudbright-ſhire. It is common among them, to fancy that they ſee, the *Wraiths* of perſons dying, which will be viſible to one, and not to others preſent with him. Sometimes, the good and the bad angel of the perſon are ſeen contending in the ſhape of a white and a black dog. Only the ghoſts of wicked perſons are ſuppoſed to return to viſit and diſturb their old acquaintance. The Brownie was a very obliging ſpirit, who uſed to come into houſes, by night, and for a diſh of cream, to perform luſtily any piece of work, that might remain to be done: Sometimes he would work, and ſometimes eat, till *he burſted:* If old clothes were laid out for him, he took them in great diſtreſs, and never more returned: A Brownie is now very ſeldom to be heard of, in this country. Within theſe laſt twenty years, it was hardly poſſible to meet with any perſon who had not ſeen many *wraiths* and ghoſts in the courſe of his experience. The Fairies are little beings of a

doubtful character, ſometimes benevolent, ſometimes miſchievous: On *Hallowe'en* and on ſome other evenings, they and the *Gyar-Carlins* are ſure to be abroad, and to *ſtap* thoſe, they meet and are diſpleaſed with, *full of butter and beare awns;* In winter-nights, they are heard curling on every ſheet of ice: Having a ſeptennial ſacrifice of a human being, to make to the devil, they ſometimes carry away children, leaving little vixens of their own in the cradle: The diſeaſes of cattle are very commonly attributed to their miſchievous operation: Cows are often *elf-ſhot*. Cattle are alſo ſubject to be injured by what is called *an evil eye;* for ſome perſons are ſuppoſed to have naturally a blaſting power in their eyes with which they injure whatever offends, or is hopeleſsly deſired by them: Witches and warlocks are alſo much diſpoſed to wreak their malignity on cattle: Charms are the chief remedies applied for their diſeaſes. I have been, myſelf, acquainted with an Antiburgher-Clergyman in theſe parts, who actually procured from a perſon who pretended to ſkill in theſe charms, two ſmall pieces of wood, curiouſly wrought, to be kept in his father's cow-houſe, as a ſecurity for the health of his cows. It is common to bind into a cow's tail, a ſmall piece of mountain-aſh,—wood, as a charm againſt witchcraft. Few old women are now ſuſpected of witchcraft: but many tales are told of the *conventions* of

witches

witches in the Kirks, in former times,—of their purſuit of ſuch as happened, by any accident, to ſpy their myſteries,—and of ſuch unhappy wights withſtanding the purſuers, within a circle, drawn with a ſword, in the holy name of God,—till the return of day. The Devil himſelf ſometimes ariſes, in ſome human or brutal form, to tempt or affright theſe good people. His favourite form is that of a ſow: Not many years ago, a worthy man miſtaking a hog or ſow, by night, for the devil, brought out his bible, and ſet to exorciſe the evil ſpirit with prayer; but unluckily inſtead of being driven away by his exorciſm, the object of his apprehenſions accidentally advancing upon him, overthrew him in a trench. But devils, brownies, witches, fairies are becoming every year, leſs numerous, and leſs frequent in their appearance, in Kirkcudbright-ſhire. It is poſſible, that they may, in time, ſhare the fate of the ancient wild cattle which have been entirely exterminated out of this country.

I SHALL add a few other particulars, before croſſing the *Fleet*, concerning the general character and circumſtances of the inhabitants of Kirkcudbright-ſhire.—Potatoes have become almoſt the chief article of food with the common people. The uſe of tea is very generally adopted among the farmers. Except an individual or two in every little village; they

they are little addicted to the drinking of intoxicating liquors. It is but of late, that the uſe of whiſky has been introduced through the country. Rum, and brandy have been leſs drunk, ſince the Galloway ſmugglers have been vigorouſly checked by the exertions of the Commiſſioners of Exciſe. The time was, when the farmers meeting at a market-town, or *clachan*, would ſit together for days, and tipple penny-ale. But, punch is now the beverage upon ſuch occaſions; and the ſitting is never prolonged for ſo conſiderable a time.——The clothes worn by the farmers and peaſantry are ſtill chiefly of their domeſtic manufacture. Yet, every young man has commonly a coat of Engliſh cloth; and Iriſh linen is procured, in exchange for old clothes. The young women are no longer ſatisfied with their ſtuff and drugget gowns, and blue cloth cloaks: Every ſervant maid has her cotton gown, her ſilk cloak, and a ſmart hat or bonnet. Hats are univerſally worn by the men; bonnets, although of the manufacture of Kilmarnock in the next county, have been laid aſide. The furniture of the houſes is not inconvenient. The beds are ſtuffed with chaff or feathers. Three-footed ſtools have given place to chairs. The tables, preſſes, and cheſts are all decent and commodious enough. The ſpoons are horn. Places of earthen ware, with knives and forks are generally uſed. Forty years ago, a candle-extinguiſher might have been

been miſtaken by any farmer's wife in the country, for a dram-glaſs. But, the uſes of this and ſuch other little articles of accommodation are now univerſally known. The houſes are now generally built with chimnies; not with a hole called a *lumm* in the middle of the roof, anſwering to a hearth in the midſt of the floor.—Every one is taught reading, writing, and a little arithmetic; whereas, eighty or ninety years ago, it was thought enough to teach the eldeſt ſon of a family to read and write.—Carts have now come into general uſe, inſtead of the cars and creels which were the carriages formerly employed.—The farm-ſervants in Kirkcudbright-ſhire do leſs work, than thoſe in Ayr-ſhire and ſome other counties. They are commonly left idle for the greater part of the winter evenings.—No conſiderable quantities of butter or cheeſe are made for exportation, in Kirkcudbright-ſhire. From the upper parts of this diſtrict, indeed, there is ſome ewe-milk cheeſe, ſold into Ayr-ſhire, from which it is exported, with the cheeſe made in that county, under the common name of *Dunlop* cheeſe.——The butter of Galloway is excellent, and might be exported with great advantage. The language ſpoken in this ſtewartry abounds in broad vowels, and palatine conſonants: It ſeems Saxon, ſtrongly daſhed with Daniſh —with comparatively little remainder of the Celtic.

One

One thing ſtrikingly expreſſive of the good ſenſe of the inhabitants of this ſtewartry forced itſelf upon my notice. At this time, the efforts of the giddy and the turbulent, who wiſhed to perſuade the Britiſh Nation to overturn their Conſtitution, becauſe the French had done ſo with theirs—At this time, the efforts of thoſe men had begun to be exerted with too ſucceſsful an efficacy. A variety of books, had been circulated, which were more ſtrongly libellous of the Britiſh Conſtitution, and indeed of all orderly ſociety, than ever the moſt atrocious calumny was of any private character. They had been circulated with an aſſiduity partly intereſted, partly enthuſiaſtic. An impreſſion had been made upon that corrupted maſs of the people, which is naturally formed about great towns. Theſe had eagerly diffuſed the infection. It had ſpread into almoſt every quarter. Every idle mechanic, every worthleſs peaſant was eager to become a reformer, a legiſlator, a ruler. Who indeed could be unwilling to obtain the credit of knowledge which he had not ſuſpected himſelf to poſſeſs; to be inveſted with ſovereign power---that great object of human ambition---; and to have an equal ſhare of the property of thoſe who had acquired or inherited property,—without toiling for it, as they or their father had done? With theſe temptations to ſeduce, it was natural for the poor, the ignorant, the giddy, the idle, the credulous, the diſſipated, to be every where

where allured to promote a reform, the nature of which they could not underſtand. The ſocieties of this character which were very generally formed, and the deliberations and reſolutions by which theſe diſtinguiſhed themſelves, ſhewed plainly that a ferment had been excited through many parts of Scotland. Occaſional tumults, and acts of mobbiſh inſolence, if not of inſurrection, attended thoſe ſocieties in all their different feats; perhaps, indeed, rather as collateral and related events, than as direct effects. But, in the ſtewartry of Kirkcudbright, this political frenzy had not begun to rage. The inhabitants of this diſtrict were not leſs informed than the citizens of Glaſgow, of Paiſley, of Perth, of Kirkintilloch, concerning the general train of public events. The improvement of the condition of the poor, had been leſs rapid here, than in thoſe places. Yet, no murmurs had begun to riſe, no ſchools of ſedition had been inſtituted, none of its revels had been celebrated in theſe parts. High and low agreed in thinking it the trueſt patriotiſm, to love the Britiſh Conſtitution, to preſerve its forms unviolated, and to perpetuate it unaltered, uninjured, to their poſterity, as the nobleſt legacy that one generation of human beings could bequeath to another.—At Garehouſe, although a ſeat of manufacture, where a good number of the induſtrious part of the ſociety were aſſembled, in a

ſtate of conſiderable independence, no Reform Society had been inſtituted or ſuggeſted. All were content with their political condition, and were ready to attribute chiefly to its advantages, that rapid progreſs of wealth and induſtry in which they rejoiced.

From GATEHOUSE *of* FLEET, *to* FERRY-TOWN *of* CREE.

NOT many years ſince, the road from Gatehouſe to Ferry town, led among hills of the moſt difficult aſcent, and was ſo imperfectly made, as to be often abſolutely impaſſable. The preſent Marquis of Downſhire, travelling at one time, by this way between England and Ireland was, by ſome accident, owing chiefly to the badneſs of the road, obliged to ſpend a ſtormy night in his carriage, among theſe hills. Nor is this road only rough and difficult of aſcent. The country is, on both hands, wild and dreary; exhibiting only brown heath and bleak rocks.

WITHIN theſe few laſt years, therefore, the gentlemen of the county have procured a new road to be led along the coaſt between theſe two towns. The country round which the road leads, is not every where adorned and cultivated. But, for a great part of the way, it is both naturally charming, and conſiderably

ably beautified by the hand of induſtry. It leads, for the firſt three or four miles, from one gentleman's pleaſure-grounds, into another's.

CROSSING the Fleet by the bridge, the traveller, firſt paſſes by a line of new houſes which have been haſtily *run up* on its weſtern bank, for the accommodation of ſome new adventurers in the cotton-manufacture.—The ancient caſtle of *Caerdineſs*, (celebrated by *Camden*, as having been, at the time when he wrote, a fortified place of ſome conſideration on this coaſt) hangs with a picturesque aſpect, over the ſhore*. It was formerly the ſeat of the *Maccullochs*, one of the moſt ancient families in Galloway; and who, as I believe, have been conſiderable ever ſince the time of the old Lords of Galloway: A *Macculloch* was Sheriff of Wigton-ſhire under Edward I. of England, in that ſhort period when Scotland was ſubject to the Engliſh yoke. Caerdineſs became afterwards the property of the *Maxwells*,—originally of *Caerlaverock* and *Nithſdale*, when that powerful family extended their poſſeſſions, and ſpread out their cadets over a great part of the ſouthern diviſion of Kirkcudbright-ſhire. It now gives a denomination to Mr Maxwell of Caerdineſs who has a conſiderable eſtate in this neighbourhood.

* I am not ſure, that Camden's Caerdineſs did not ſtand rather two or three miles ſouth-weſt from this.

The houſe, woods, gardens, and lawns of Cally, with the adjacent village are ſeen to great advantage; as the traveller advances. *Borland* inhabited by Mr *Stuart*: *Airdwall* the ſeat of Mr *Macculloch*, with woods and well laid out grounds, are ſeen upon the ſhore. The hills on the North-Weſt are ſcreened from the eye, with wood. Fertile fields which have not long ſince begun to be ſkilfully wrought by agricultural induſtry, lie at their baſes. The inequalities of the riſing grounds, with wood ſcattered over them are every where ſo varied, and ſo novel in their aſpect, as to preſent the moſt intereſting ſcenery to the eye of taſte. On SKY-ARBURN, a fine romantic glen opens up. Of the wood, there is a great part birch, with pines, oaks, aſhes, and other trees here and there intermixed. Hazels, buckthorn, dwarf-willows are the underwood. Abundance of black cattle are ſeen roaming wherever the woods open into a lawn. The ſheep are chiefly confined to the more diſtant hills.

BARDARROCH, the ſeat of Mr Maxwell of Caerdineſs is beautifully ſituate nearly upon a point of the coaſt. The houſe is handſome, the ſituation intereſting, the gardens and immediate environs, ſkilfully laid out. The Iriſh ocean here begins to open wide to the eye; and the iſland of MAN is ſeen, as it were, floating amidſt the waves, to the South-Eaſt.

THESE

THERE has long been conſiderable intercourſe between this iſland and the inhabitants of the coaſts of Galloway. *Man* ſeems to have been originally peopled by the ſame *Celtic* race, who were the early inhabitants of the contiguous coaſts of Galloway and Ireland. It was ſeized by the Danes, in their piratical deſcents upon theſe coaſts. It had been before ſubdued by the Northumbrian Saxons. When the Scottiſh monarchs had reduced Galloway under entire ſubjection, they turned their views to Man, and received the homage of its princes. It fell afterwards into the hands of the Engliſh. Its ſovereignty was conferred upon the Stanleys, Earls of Derby. By marriage, it became a poſſeſſion of the family of Athol. The privileges of Man were, by the Britiſh Government purchaſed from that family for the ſum of ſeventy thouſand pounds, with the addition of a penſion of between two and three thouſand pounds on the lives of the then Duke and Ducheſs. It has been ſince reclaimed unſucceſsfully by the preſent Duke of Athol.

THE inhabitants of Man ſpeak a peculiar language, a mixture of the Gaelic with the Norſe or Icelandic. Their manners are not highly civilized. Their iſland has not been conſiderably cultivated. Their religion is of the Church of England. Many of them follow a ſea-faring life. Their iſland is ſtill the

the haunt of ſmugglers, but was remakably ſo before they became ſubject to the laws of the Britiſh Exciſe and Cuſtom-houſe. Salt, liquors, teas, and a variety of Eaſt India goods, imported by other European nations were then landed in the iſle of *Man* and ſmuggled over into Galloway. This traffic was highly detrimental to the National Revenue. It had alſo a moſt pernicious influence on the manners of the iſlanders and of the inhabitants of the coaſts; while it withdrew them from fair traffic, honeſt induſtry, and the improvement of ſuch advantages as their country naturally afforded. Upon the purchaſe of the ſovereignty of this iſland for government, meaſures were employed to reſtrain this pernicious traffic. The diſtreſs of the ſmugglers was great. Songs lamenting this event are yet common among the inhabitants of the coaſts of Galloway. But, the Gallovidians could not immediately relinquiſh their favourite employment. They perſiſted in ſmuggling although at a greater riſk than formerly: and ſtill continued to ſend their ſmuggled goods to almoſt all quarters in the ſouth of Scotland. They were often intercepted by the cuſtom-houſe cutters. and often by parties of ſoldiers under the direction of the Exciſe-officers, after their goods had been landed. Hardly ever a ſmuggler eſcaped bankruptcy and ruin, ſooner or later. But, ſtill the trade was tempting. The

country

country in general ſeemed to gain by it. Even ſome of the landed Gentlemen were occaſionally tempted to take a part in it. And companies of ſmugglers, with conſiderable capitals, were here and there eſtabliſhed. At length, Government and the Commiſſioners of Exciſe ſaw the neceſſity of checking the ſmugglers of Galloway, yet more effectually. The Exciſe-officers were multiplied; conſiderable parties of ſoldiers were ſtationed through the country, to be ready to aid the exciſe-officers in their ſeizures; and ſuch vigilance and energy were exerted,---that the capital and the mercantile enterprize of the Gallovidians, are now in general employed in more proper channels.

BUT, to add a few other particulars concerning the iſle of *Man*, while I journey on, within view of it: Its ſoil is not in general, fertile: Its mountains,---the two Barrowls, Skeyall, the Watchill of Knockallou, Sceaſel, Sneaſield or Snawfeldt, are very lofty; the ſhores of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales being plainly diſcernible from the two laſt: Its brooks are numerous. It has vaſt tracts of peat-earth. Potatoes, barley, oats, flax, and hemp are produced in the arable and fertile parts of the iſland. The inhabitants have for their domeſtic animals, black cattle, horſes, ſheep, goats, hogs---of the laſt, a ſmall breed called PURRS, whoſe pork and bacon is ſingularly delicate.

delicate. They have alſo rabbits and hares in abundance. They have, on their mountains, eagles and hawks. Their rivulets afford ſalmons, trouts, eels, and other freſh water fiſhes: On their ſhores are caught cod, turbot, ling, halibut, herrings, all ſorts of ſhell-fiſhes,---although the oyſters are rather good than plentiful. By the herring-fiſhery, the inhabitants of Man have ſometimes been conſiderable gainers; but I am not ſure, that they continue to proſecute it with ſufficient induſtry and perſeverance. ---Beſide peats, the bowels of the earth furniſh theſe people with marl, limeſtone, ſlate, freeſtone, ragſtone, black marble, lead, iron, copper, and various other foſſils.

Of raw products, or manufactures, theſe iſlanders have, however, few to export. They ſupply us with ſome ſlates, black marble, lamb's wool, hides, tallow, fiſh-oil, wax, and honey. There was a time when they uſed to ſend not leſs than twenty thouſand barrels of herrings annually to France. Their manufactures, whether linen or woollen might be more advantageouſly proſecuted, if proſecuted with greater induſtry.

Their principal towns are *Douglas*, or---more properly---*Duſglas*, on the eaſt-ſide of the iſland; *Peel* or *Holm*, on the weſt-ſide; *Ramſea*, on the north-eaſt;

north-east; and *Castletown*, in which the officers of the government chiefly reside.

THEIR ancient laws are still preserved to them. Their great court of TINGWALD is equally their legislature, and their principal body of judicature; and consists of the governor, his council, the two *deemsters*--the judges in civil and criminal affairs,--and the twenty-four *Keys*,——men who are chosen to assist the judge, on account of their supposed knowledge of the laws and customs of the island. The island is divided into six *sheadings*; each of which has its coroner,—an officer equal in authority to our Sherriff.——The ecclesiastical affairs of this island are regulated by a bishop, under the Primacy of the Archbishop of York, an archdeacon, two vicars-general under the bishop, with the clergy of seventeen parishes, two of whom are parsons, the others, vicars. The island has likewise some public schools, in which the elements of classical education are taught.

THE island seems formed for a nursery of seamen. It might be well, if the inhabitants were encouraged to apply themselves chiefly to a sea-faring life. Their minerals might be advantageously dug and exported. Their harbours being large and safe: if

they were duely attentive to their cattle; the iſland might be a good victualling place for ſhips.——

TURNING round the jutting coaſt, where it ſtretches out, to form a channel at the mouth of the Cree; the houſe of Kirkdale riſes to the eye with a ſort of magic effect. It is newly built, of grey granite quarried from the adjacent hills; the edifice ſtately and ſpacious; after a moſt elegant plan by Mr Adams; the granite beautifully poliſhed; the adjacent fields bare, uninclоſed, and unadorned,—for, ſince the houſe was built, circumſtances have ariſen, to retard the completion of the noble plan, upon which the adjacent grounds were to have been laid out and planted. It commands a noble proſpect of the Iriſh ſea,—of the adjacent country extending up the weſtern bank of the Cree, —of the town of Wigton and its environs on the oppoſite bank of the ſame river,—and of the land ſtretching out, in a ſort of promontory, to form *the point of Whithern*,—the *Candida Caſa* of Bede. The houſe of Kirkdale is among the moſt advantageouſly ſituate in Scotland, for the grandeur and extent of the proſpects which it commands. The circumjacent grounds, too, are ſufficiently ſuſceptible of every decoration which it would be proper for art to ſuperinduce upon them. In its preſent ſtate, it has the

the air of the palace of an Arabian Tale, or of one of the ſolitary caſtles which were the ſeats and fortreſſes of our martial anceſtors.

On all theſe mountains, abundance of granite is found, ſuperincumbent in vaſt maſſes upon other more regular ſtrata. The biſhop of Derry obtained conſiderable quantities of this granite, a year or two ſince, to be employed in the ſtructure of architectural ornaments for ſome churches in Ireland.

Where the highway leads along the ſhore of the Frith, and up the bank of the river, the ſcenery is pictureſque, and wildly beautiful. The ſides of the hills riſe boldly, incroaching at the ſame time, far in upon the ſhore. They are fringed, in many places, with underwood; hazels, furze, and riſing oaks, or birches. Sometimes, little inſulated mounts riſe to break the narrow plain which ſkirts the baſes of the hills. Here and there are farm-houſes and cottages, with little gardens of pot-herbs, and little fields of potatoes or corn. In one of theſe cottages, placed in a ſequeſtered ſituation among the woods, a young girl was, ſome years ſince, barbarouſly murdered by her lover, by whom ſhe was with child. The country people fancied, that the neighbourhood was diſturbed by ſupernatural noiſes and apparitions, till after that the murderer had been

detected and brought to juſtice. In the ſame tract, and upon the coaſt ſtands the ancient houſe of *Caer-ſluth*, formerly the ſeat of the *Browns*; a conſiderable family in theſe parts. *Caſſencarry*, a ſeat belonging to Mr *Muir-Mackenzie*, is finely ſituate under the baſe of the ſame range of hills; and has, on its front, a plain of ſome extent, which although unfit for culture, and almoſt for paſturage, has been more gainful to the proprietor, than if it had fed the fatteſt cattle, or produced the richeſt crops of grain. It is one deep bed of ſhells and ſleech, the moſt valuable of manures. This manure has been beneficially laid upon the proprietor's own lands, and has been ſold, with ſufficient advantage to farmers who had not acceſs to this or any other ſuch ſtrata of ſhells without purchaſe. Along great part of the ſhore, from the entrance into the Frith, this manure is to be had in great abundance.

THE fiſhings of the *Cree* are valuable. The proprietors or poſſeſſors of the lands along its banks, on both ſides, enjoy the rights of the fiſhery. Salmon, and a variety of other fiſhes are taken in great abundance. The ſalmon are eſteemed the moſt delicate in Scotland. This is one of the few rivers into which ſmelts, or *ſpurlings* enter, in Spring. Theſe are taken, in large quantities for the few nights during which they are to be found in the *Cree*.

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They are eſteemed a choice delicacy, and are ſent, as preſents to friends at a diſtance. Flounders are plentiful in this Frith; and I ſhould ſuppoſe, that the fiſhery alone might afford more than nouriſhment enough to all the inhabitants, ſcattered near the mouth of this river. The ſalmon are exported to *Liverpool*, and perhaps to other places.

Ferrytown of Cree;—and to Newton-Stewart, alias—*Douglas*.

THE Ferrytown of Cree is a village of no great antiquity. It owes its origin,---as the name ſeems to indicate,---to the eſtabliſhment of a ferry here for the conveyance of paſſengers to the oppoſite ſide of the Cree. The river is here of conſiderable width. When the tide has ebbed, it may be waded or paſſed on horſeback; although not without difficulty and danger. At other times, the paſſenger muſt be ferried over.

As to beauty of ſituation: this village is leſs happily placed than Gatehouſe. The ground is not level and equal, but varied irregularly. The plan has not been formed, when the village began to be built. But, every feuar ſeems to have been left,---for a while, to ſet down his houſe, as his own fancy ſuggeſted. It grew at length into ſomething of form

form and order. I am inclined to think, that the ſtraggling diſpoſition of ſome of its houſes gives them a more picturesque effect. This effect is aided by the inequalities of the ground, the unequal heights of the houſes, the little gardens interſperſed, and the trees riſing here and there among theſe. The environs, too, are cultivated; and ſome handſome houſes, among which is the houſe of Mr *Macculloch* of *Barholm*, are ſeen here and there.

FERRYTOWN is conſiderably leſs than Gatehouſe, and does not ſeem to contain more than half as many inhabitants. It is ſupported by a coaſting trade in lime, coals, ſalt, grocery goods, liquors, and wood. It is ſtated in the Cuſtom-houſe books, as a member of the port of *Wigton*. It produces a good many ſailors, and is inhabited chiefly by ſeafaring people. Its manners take their tone from theſe. Here are abundance of tippling-houſes, but no decent or commodious inn. Dram-drinking is the vice of the place and of the neighbourhood. You ſee every where through the village, marks of the tarriſh roughneſs and manlineſs.---I know not that any conſiderable manufactures have been eſtabliſhed here. The genius of the place ſeems rather to prompt the farther proſecution of trade, and of the fiſheries of the friths. Many of theſe villagers have, with a feued houſe and garden, a little field

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for corn and paſture, rented from one or another of the neighbouring landholders. They are tenants of a good part of Mr Macculloch of Barholm's contiguous eſtate; not leſs, I ſuppoſe, to his advantage, than to their own. Yet, I muſt confeſs, that, in places advantageouſly ſituate for trade or manufacture, I ſhould not wiſh to encourage the labourers and mechanics to divide their cares and their little ſtocks between occaſional agriculture, and their proper employments. It were better to leave it to the neighbouring farmers to ſupply ſuch articles as can be raiſed in the neighbourhood, than to make a ſet of villagers, half-farmers, half-artizans. But, in ſituations, unfavourable for trade, and into which manufactures have not yet been introduced, a village cannot be otherwiſe formed, than by making the villagers petty farmers and half-huſbandmen. Even ſuch a village will improve the adjacent lands, and contribute to raiſe their value. Only, where it can be formed or enriched, upon the principles of trade or of manufacture; it will be wiſer to throw agriculture ſomewhat into the back-ground.

From Ferrytown of Cree, after taking ſome refreſhment, I proceeded on my way to Newton-Stewart, newly Newton-Douglas. The fertility of the country declines, as it recedes from the ſea-ſhore. Yet it is ſtill ſo conſiderable, that all the farmers on the

the grounds lying low on the banks of the river; find agriculture and the feeding of black-cattle the moſt profitable modes of managing their farms.

One of the moſt intereſting tracts in this diſtrict, is the *Moſs of Cree;* an extent of level ground upon the eaſtern bank of this river, conſiſting of many acres, and divided into various farms; of which the whole is almoſt one continued ſtratum of peat-earth. Wherever peats are cut in this tract of *moſs*, large trunks of trees are found, laid extremely thick, and moſt of them---ſtill undecayed. The origin of this moſs is thus plainly diſcovered. That tract which it occupies, has made a part of a wide foreſt. By ſome extraordinary deluge, or hurricane, or convulſion, thoſe trees muſt have been overthrown, when at their full growth. The country was then, perhaps uninhabited, or occupied only by a few ſavage hunters, roaming over the hills, or amid the foreſts. Such an event, if it paſſed not unnoticed, would neceſſarily paſs unregiſtered by them. The formation of this moſs is known therefore, at this time, only by the appearances which it exhibits. The trees of which the trunks remain here---are of thoſe ſpecies, common in Scotland; oaks, Scotch pines, birches, and perhaps various others. I know not whether any exuviæ of thoſe animals which were the ancient inhabitants of our Scottiſh foreſts,

or

or whether any buried ſpecimens of ancient arts and cuſtoms have been found in this moſs. I ſhould think it probable, that ſome ſuch muſt have been here found.—Agriculture has made ſome progreſs in ſubduing the natural obſtinacy of this moſſy ſoil. The moſs has been in ſome places, cut away, and the clay below it, brought to produce rich crops. In ſome places, drains have been formed, and pumps ſet up, for carrying off the water. The mixture of other earths, and of ſuitable manures has fertilized the peat-earth in ſome ſpots. Beans, barley, oats, and perhaps ſome wheat are raiſed through this tract. Yet, after all, but a very little has yet been done. The moſs is rendered ſufficiently acceſſible by good roads. Indeed, the highway which runs through ſome part of it, muſt have been formed with great labour, and a comparatively enormous expence. I know not, that thoſe expedients which have been ſo happily employed to recover the arable ground from the vaſt moſſes on the Forth in Stirling-ſhire, have been tried here. Were trenches formed, the moſs cut, and puſhed into the torrents which would neceſſarily pour down the trenches in great rains; the ſoil might be ſpeedily cleared of the incumbering moſs.—The buildings within the extent of this moſs, except ſuch as have been very lately erected, are all of a very mean and incommodious ſtructure; the cottages having mud-walls, or turfs

piled up together, and being covered on the roofs, with thinner turfs.

SEVERAL pleaſing proſpects open to the North-Weſt, extending up vales divided by various rivulets,—from the highway between Ferrytown and Newton-Douglas. The ſloping hills are rough with underwood. Cattle are fed in great numbers on the lawns. And the loweſt ground in the vales is in fine cultivation. A river running into Cree, the name of which I have indeed forgotten, but on whoſe banks I have formerly wandered once or twice, with great delight, preſents ſome charming wild ſcenes. Its banks are plentifully wooded; the hills riſe and open and cloſe in many diverſified forms. The ſtream is ſometimes obſtructed with rocks, among which it burſts with the greater impetuoſity, in conſequence of the obſtruction. The houſe of *Bardrocheid* belonging to Mr Lawrie, and *Bargaly*, the property of Mr Hannah, are ſeated on the banks of this river.

THE hills towering up, between the Fleet and the Dee, have much of an Alpine wildneſs and grandeur in their aſpect. *Cairnſmore* riſes above the reſt. It ſeems to derive its name from its ſuperior magnitude. Sheep and goats are fed on theſe mountains. Some *tumuli* and others of the rude and ſim-

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ple monuments of remote antiquity are ſcattered over them. Were it not for the wonderful mildneſs of all the coaſt of Galloway, theſe mountains might be liable by their height and bleakneſs, to be conſtantly ſnow-clad. But on all theſe coaſts, ſpring, ſummer, and harveſt are early; winter late and mild. Snow never lies on the ground for any length of time. The lakes and rivers are ſeldom long enough frozen, to allow the inhabitants of theſe parts any ſatisfactory enjoyment of their favourite diverſion of curling on the ice. To the ſouth of Galloway, particularly to the coaſts of Kirkcudbright-ſhire, might the valetudinarian advantageouſly repair from other parts in Galloway,—— were it not that the air is perhaps too moiſt, and the country, in ſome parts too marſhy. Agues were formerly the frequent diſeaſes of the inhabitants of what is called, in the dialect of the country, the *Laigh Field* of Kirkcudbright-ſhire. Colds, rheums, and conſumptions are the diſeaſes moſt prevalent in the hilly parts of the country.

THE lead mines of *Mochramore* were once a ſource of conſiderable wealth to the inhabitants of theſe parts, and eſpecially to the landholders, proprietors of the mines. They were wrought with great earneſtneſs. A village roſe beſide the mines, occupied ſolely by the miners. The lead was ſold at a ſuffi-

cient price. And nothing could have prevented theſe mineral ſtores from continuing to enrich the country and its inhabitants,—had not the veins of ore come to be at length, greatly exhauſted, and new veins ceaſed to be diſcovered. I rode cloſe by where the miners were at work; and ſaw various ſpecimens of ore; but none of them ſo ſingular as to be worthy of a particular deſcription here. Only an hundred and eighty hands are now employed in working theſe mines.

THE houſe of *Mochramore*, the ſeat of Mr *Dunbar*, lying weſtward from the highway, but on the eaſtern bank of the river Cree, is a fine object in the landſcape which extends before the traveller near theſe mines.—Advancing onwards, we paſſed near by *Kirroch-tree*, the ſeat of Mr Heron of Heron: a large houſe, modernized, and repaired, with additions, within theſe laſt fifteen or twenty years. —The family of Heron are from the North of England. A *Robert Heron* was comptroller of the kingdom of Scotland, for ſome time, during its ſubjection to Edward I. of England. A Sir *Richard Heron* is celebrated in the ballad of Chevy Chaſe, as one of the warriours who fought on the Engliſh ſide. The anceſtors of the preſent Mr Heron of Heron have long been ſettled in Galloway. His grandfather was repreſentative of the county in ſeveral ſucceſſive

ceſſive parliaments. He is diſtinguiſhed as a very worthy and amiable private gentleman.—The environs of Kirrouchtree-houſe, are not without ſuitable ornaments, to ſet off and improve the natural beauties of the ſcenery; but ſeem to me ſuſceptible of much more conſiderable decorations than they have yet received. Below it lies a plain which is ſaid, with great appearance of probability, to have been the ſcene of ſome ancient battle. A ſtanding ſtone and ſome cairns remain as monuments of that event. Some beautiful fields and parks in this neighbourhood are diſgraced by the paltry ſtone-dykes ſurrounding them. The proſpect of Newton-Douglas, as one approaches, is not unpleaſing; yet, leſs agreeable, than if the back-ground were more boldly terminated by riſing hills. I reached this village in the afternoon: And after taking ſome refreſhment in an uncomfortable inn, on the eaſt ſide of the river, was favoured with the company of Mr Hope, the Surgeon of the village, whoſe abilities and medical ſkill are worthy of a more ſplendid theatre on which they might be diſplayed.

Newton Douglas, and its Environs.

NEWTON-Douglas is, like Caſtle-Douglas, Gate-houſe of Fleet, and Ferrytown of Cree, another thriving

thriving village, of late origin, which owes its rife to the judgment of an enlightened and public-fpirited landholder, and to thofe circumftances which have, within the prefent century, contributed greatly to the improvement of Galloway, in general, although without operating towards the enlargement of its ancient burghs.

THIS village is fituate on the Cree, partly within the parifh of Minnigaff lying on the eaft fide of this river, and in part, within Penningham, lying on the weft fide;—but chiefly and properly within the latter. Like the other villages above mentioned, it lies on the great highway between Dumfries and Portpatrick. To the river, the bridge, the highway, the inclination of the proprietor of the ground to form a village, and the extent of the adjacent country without a market town, does the origin of this village appear to be referable. As in the origin of fome other villages, the idle, the giddy, thofe who hung loofe upon fociety, were the firft to flock to it. The advantages of the feus invited fome peafants who had accumulated a few pounds. Smuggling did fomething to promote its advancement. Some money was naturally left in it by travellers, —as a commodious ftage on the highway. A decent inn or two foon came to be kept. A few fhopkeepers were gathered hither. A few artifans found this

this a ſituation where their country-cuſtomers would readily enough reſort to find them. And through the influence of all theſe, and various other circumſtances, Newton-Stewart, notwithſtanding the vicinity of the Clachan of Minnigaff, had riſen to be a conſiderable village, containing perhaps about a thouſand inhabitants, before, by the will of the Lord of the Manor, it became Newton-Douglas.

THROUGH the influence of a variety of cauſes, many of the eſtates of Galloway have, within theſe laſt thirty years, come into the hands of new proprietors. Among others, the eſtates of the family of Caſtle-Stewart, a younger branch of the family of the Stewarts Earls of Galloway, have paſſed from their former proprietors. They have fallen into the hands of the ſame reſpectable merchant who has become the proprietor of the village of Carlinwark in Kirkcudbright-ſhire——Since theſe eſtates and with them the ſuperiorities of Newton-Stewart have been purchaſed by Mr W. Douglas, its population and induſtry have continued to advance, as before, but with increaſing rapidity proportioned to the more rapid improvement of the reſt of Galloway, and of Scotland, in general. The cotton-manufacture has been introduced, ſince its having ſucceeded ſo happily at Gatehouſe. Several of thoſe machines for ſpinning cotton which are commonly

monly named *mules*, have been ſet up here. Machines for carding the cotton-wool have been likewiſe introduced. A company under the firm of Douglas, Dale, and M'Call have alſo joined to erect a large work for the ſpinning of cotton by mill-machinery, at a ſmall diſtance up the river above the village, and upon the weſtern bank. A tannery had been long before eſtabliſhed here, and managed with great judgment and ſufficient ſucceſs. The ſalmon-fiſhing of the river had likewiſe been conſiderably lucrative. A village-lawyer or two had found this a favourable ſituation to ſettle in. A ſmall manufacture of coarſe carpets had been attempted by a Mr Tannahill, under the patronage of Mr Douglas. A good ſchool was eſtabliſhed in the village. A branch of the Paiſley bank likewiſe opened a counting-houſe. And a multitude of circumſtances concurred to promiſe that Newton-Douglas might under the patronage of its new lord, riſe rapidly to be a place of no ſmall conſequence. Its preſent population amounts to about twelve hundred ſouls.

I was much pleaſed to learn all theſe facts. Not in one or two places, but round the whole coaſt is the population and the opulence of Galloway faſt improving. The manners of its inhabitants have been improved, with its circumſtances. If thoſe who

who at firſt reſorted to the naſcent villages, were rather the giddy, the licentious, and the indolent; the vices of theſe people have been ſince checked, and their energy roufed by exertion. Bring men together in any ſituation not exceedingly unfavourable; and you have a powerful engine by the wiſe management of which---almoſt any noble purpoſe may be effected: Only bring them not together *too* cloſely, or in *too* great numbers, unleſs you intend ſpeedily again to diſperſe them.

NEAR Newton-Douglaſs, but upon the eaſtern bank of the Cree, ſtands the ancient village or Clachan of Minnigaff. Its houſes are, for the moſt part, built with a cement in the walls of clay mixed with ſand, and have their roofs covered with thatch. This village ſeems to have owed its riſe chiefly to the vicinity of the Kirk. It is ſeated upon the confluence of a rivulet the name of which I neglected to enquire---with the Cree. Above this village ſtands the Kirk of Minnigaff in a ſituation ſomewhat elevated. The manſe which I have repeatedly found the ſeat of polite and elegant hoſpitality ſtands near. The view down the Cree, from the windows of the upper rooms in the manſe of Minnigaff, is highly pleaſing. The courſe of the river, an iſlet dividing its ſtream, ſtraggling houſes on both ſides, the village extending to the ſouth-weſt,

and a green hill, with trees ſtraight ſouth beyond it, are the groupe of objects which make up the landſcape. But, in enumeration it is impoſſible to give to objects in ſcenery any thing of the effect which they acquire from their natural attitudes and colours. I cannot communicate the impreſſions which this proſpect made upon my mind. If I could, my reader would be ſufficiently rewarded by theſe alone, for the trouble of attending ſo dull and inſipid a traveller, in a rainy ſeaſon, through the courſe of this journey.

I HAVE almoſt forgotten to mention, that a Relief-meeting-houſe has been built, and a Relief Congregation formed at Newton-Douglas. Although a ſincere well-wiſher to the church of Scotland; I am however not ill-pleaſed to ſee diſſenting-meeting-houſes ariſe in growing and populous villages. They have always a happy effect on the morals of the loweſt of the people, and they ſerve, at the ſame time, to rouſe the eſtabliſhed clergy to an alert diſcharge of their official duties.

UNLUCKILY Newton-Douglas had not been begun, like Gatehouſe of Fleet, upon any plan previouſly formed. It is therefore like Ferrytown, a ſtraggling village; the houſes built along the highways, and larger or ſmaller, higher or lower, as whim,

whim, accident, or convenience ſuggeſted to the builders. But, this very irregularity makes the general effect of the whole, more pictureſque, and more pleaſing to the imagination than it might otherwiſe be.

From NEWTON-DOUGLAS *to* GLENLUCE.

IT was late in the forenoon before I renewed my journey, and proceeded onwards from Newton-Douglas to Glenluce. Mr Hope kindly accompanied me for ſome part of the way. His converſation was indeed neceſſary to raiſe my ſpirits above that depreſſion which they were naturally liable to ſuffer from the drearineſs of the ſcenery upon which I now entered. It was a wide extent of flat, bleak heath, interrupted, now and then, by a moraſs out of which peats had been cut, and which perhaps exhibited the verdure of a few water-plants. The road was good; for I was yet on the great highway between London and Portpatrick: and care has been taken to make this highway paſſable, even where the pariſh-roads and the cultivation of the country have been neglected. Theſe muirs are a tract of ſheep-paſture. They ſeem not to be wholly unſuſceptible of cultivation. The Britiſh huſbandman, too, has now learned to overcome the obſti-

nacy of the muſt rugged muirs. Hills, the aſcent of which does not eaſily admit the plough, may be more wiſely appropriated to the purpoſes of paſture. But, the level of ſuch flat tracts as that which lies between Newton-Douglas and Glenluce preſents no ſuch obſtacle to impede the ditcher, the hedger, or the ploughman. And, of ſuch tracts, therefore, I am willing to hope, that, in the progreſs of cultivation, they may be all brought to bear rich crops of grain or forage —The river *Blaidenoch*, near the mouth of which *Wigton* is ſeated, runs through theſe muirs. We paſſed it, by a commodious bridge. Here and there, as we advanced, appeared a farm-houſe, having walls careleſsly enough built of ſtone and lime, and the roof—perhaps ſlated, but more commonly thatched. A few dwarfiſh trees growing round the kitchen-garden, were in theſe places, objects of beauty to draw the traveller's fondeſt attention.—The *Tarff* is another river watering this tract of country. It is inferior in ſize to the Blaidenoch; and diſplays no higher cultivation on its banks. The houſe of *Drumbuy*, low, and covered with thatch, caught my attention as I went on. It had about it ſome marks of having been once the habitation of a higher family than appeared to be then accommodated in it. The garden was ſurrounded with a thick and high ſtone-wall. Some foreign ſhrubs and among theſe a Balm of Gilead

fir

fir grew in it. The windows of the houſe were faſhed. And, the whole had an air of neatneſs, and ſnugneſs, even riſing to elegance, which formed an intereſting contraſt to the bleakneſs of the circumjacent ſcenery, and the plainneſs of thoſe who ſeemed its preſent inhabitants. It was not larger than an ordinary farm-houſe. Only, it appeared to have been the reſidence of a gentleman, at a time when farmers were leſs ſuitably accommodated than they now are. It was the ſeat of a Mr M'Kie who, if I am not miſinformed, was underſtood by the country-people, to be a repreſentative of that M'Kie who, with a Murdoch, and a M'Clurg obtained from Robert Bruce a grant of a conſiderable extent of ground, on the other ſide of the Cree, for ſervices which the performed to him, in his engagement with the Engliſh, near Craig-an-caillie, on the Dee.

The fields adjacent to the highway are nearly open. They are left ſo, I believe, in order for the accommodation of the droves of Iriſh cattle, which have lately been driven in vaſt numbers from Ireland to England, through Galloway and Dumfries-ſhire. The drivers and proprietors of theſe cattle are little diſpoſed to halt by the way, on any other account than for neceſſary reſt and refreſhment, or for ſale. They are ſeldom impreſſed ſufficiently with religious reſtraints, to be awed from proceeding on their journey

journey by any reverence for the ſanctity of the ſabbath. But, in their progreſs on this day, they have given great offence to the pious inhabitants of Galloway, in thoſe parts through which the highway runs. The appearance of the cattle on the highway, driven on irregularly, bellowing and ſtraying; their drivers running, hallooing, roaring, ſwearing:—This appearance alone cannot but be offenſive to the piety of ſuch as ſtill reſpect the Lord's day. But, this is not all. Theſe cattle are to be brought off in the morning from thoſe parks in which they have reſted for the preceding night; and the farmer or inn-keeper who has entertained them, is, with his ſervants, neceſſarily engaged in the gathering and driving of them off. They are again to halt in evening; and now likewiſe occaſion an indecent buſtle, and confuſion in which they who receive them are unavoidably concerned. Beſides, the people of the country are likely to loſe that reverence for the ſabbath, which it is highly important to maintain upon their minds; unleſs any thing like abuſe of that day be vigorouſly checked,—by whatever conſiderations of convenience it may have been ſuggeſted.—Upon theſe grounds, the Clergy of Galloway have been alarmed by this contemptuous violation of the ſabbath. They have attempted to reſtrain the the Iriſh drovers from their Sunday's progreſs. An appeal to the civil courts obtained the

drovers

drovers leave to proceed, except during the time of Divine Service.

Wigton, lying ſouthward from the muirs which I croſſed on my way to Glenluce, is a burgh of conſiderable antiquity. It may be nearly equal in ſize to Kirkcudbright. It is the Chief Town of the County. It has a Cuſtom-houſe. Its ſite is upon the mouth of the river *Blaidenoch*. It gave a title to the Earls of Wigton. Its aſpect, when ſeen from a diſtance, is ſufficiently beautiful. I know not if it be at preſent in a very flouriſhing condition. It may hereafter become more flouriſhing. With *Whithern*, *Stranraer*, and *New-Galloway*, it has a vote in the election of a member of parliament.—*Whithern* is ſituate farther to the ſouth-weſt. It is ſuppoſed to have been a town of the ancient inhabitants of theſe parts, at the time when the Romans invaded Galloway; which *Ptolemy* the Geographer mentions under the name of *Leucophibia*. It is the *Candida Caſa* of *Bede*, where the firſt Biſhopric of Galloway was eſtabliſhed, when the inhabitants of theſe parts were converted to Chriſtianity by St Ninian. It is an inconſiderable burgh, infamous as the haunt of ſmugglers. Round Wigton and Whithern there is ſomething of improved agriculture to be ſeen: And the induſtry and opulence of the country, if not advancing faſt, are at leaſt

leaſt not in a ſtate of decline. A village is riſing at *Garlies*. The *Earl of Galloway* has his principal ſeat near; and is proprietor of a conſiderable ſhare of the adjacent lands.

The ſheep of the tract of muir over which I was ſtill advancing are eſteemed for the fineneſs of their wool. There was a time when all the ſheep in Galloway were believed to bear as fine wool as any in Britain. But, in the progreſs of opulence and the increaſe of population in Britain, the fleſh has become ſo much more valuable, that the wool has been neglected. It may be happy if the efforts of the Society for the improvement of Britiſh Wool ſhall prove at leaſt more or leſs ſucceſsful. For if the ſheep-farmers could be perſuaded to direct their attention carefully to two objects at once; they might produce both fine mutton and fine wool at the ſame time. And in thoſe paſtures which are the moſt remote from markets, it might be wiſe to encourage an attention rather to the wool than to the mutton; the wool being more convenient for carriage to a diſtance. The ſmearing of ſheep with tar is unqueſtionably neceſſary to protect them from the cold of winter, and from the ruggedneſs of the heaths over which they ſtray. But, the tar has been often laid on in ſuch quantity, and the butter ſo ſcantily mixed with it, as to injure

injure equally the health and the wool of the animal. More judicious farmers have begun to lay on leſs tar, and to intermix it with a larger proportion of butter. I have not learned that the practice of ſheep-farming in theſe places, is nearly ſo judicious or profitable, as that of the farmers in Clydeſdale, and Tweed-dale.

GIPSY TINKERS often range through theſe parts; ſelling horn-ſpoons, ſmoothing-irons, and kettles; lodging in any barn, ſtable, or kiln, into which they can find acceſs; purchaſing horns; and ſtealing proviſions and clothes of all ſorts. William Marſhall, a man of the gypſey-gang, a native of the adjacent pariſh of Minnigaff, died lately at an age conſiderably above an hundred years. It had not been habitual temperance or purity of manners that had contributed to prolong his life to ſuch a period. From his earlieſt years, he had lived in all the licentiouſneſs of manners by which theſe gypſies are diſtinguiſhed. Hardly could a crime, or a ſpecies of diſſipation be named, of which he had not, at one time or another been guilty; murder, robbery, inceſt. He had been repeatedly in the army, from which he had eſcaped at one time by deſertion, at others, in conſequence of the regiment being diſbanded, in which he had ſerved. In the latter years of his life, he roamed through Galloway at the head of a

gang of tinkers; till he became at laſt too frail for this; and drew the curioſity of the country ſo much upon him by his longevity, that he found it more lucrative to travel about, alone, or almoſt alone, and to call upon ſuch as had a curioſity to ſee and to converſe with old William Marſhal. The Counteſs of Selkirk benevolently allowed him for two or three of his laſt years, a ſmall annuity which with what he received from others, made his old age ſufficiently comfortable. William was famous through the whole country, in the end of his life, for his longevity, as he had before been for his profligacy. There had been always a mixture of generoſity and ability with his wickedneſs which had, even in the midſt of it, gained him ſome ſhare of reſpect. When he *paſſed his word* for the ſafety of the goods of the neighbourhood, in any place where his gang halted for a few days, all was ſafe. If he could not protect the property of any who had not offended him; he would commonly give the proprietors warning to beware.---If Don Quixote found reaſon to felicitate himſelf, on his having been ſerved by great ladies, and courted by princeſſes, when he firſt ſallied forth, to diſtinguiſh himſelf by exploits of knight-errantry: Old William Marſhall might have ſaid, that Parſons had contended for him, and different pariſhes had claimed the honour of his nativity. In the *account of the preſent ſtate*,---for I am unwilling to

uſe

uſe that new fangled word STATISTICAL,---of the pariſhes of Scotland, compiled by Sir John Sinclair: Old Marſhall has been claimed as a native of two different pariſhes. One clergyman, willing to do his pariſh all poſſible honour, took advantage of Marſhall's being accidentally in his neighbourhood, and popped him down in his *Account*. When the miniſter of the pariſh to which William truly belonged, came to give in his Account to the Compiler, he found it neceſſary to reclaim the *waif*. I am not ſure, however, that any perſonal contention took place between the two clergymen on account of Mr Marſhall.

THE gypſies, to whoſe number William Marſhall belonged, are now leſs numerous in Galloway and other parts of Scotland, than they once were. They are among thoſe ſavage animals which increaſing population and order expel or exterminate. Their hiſtory is one of the moſt curious objects of reſearch that modern Europe affords. They are ſpread through all the countries of Europe. In Hungary and in Spain they are very numerous. Their manners, their trade, and their traffic are every where, the ſame. They keep inns; they deal in horſes; and they make houſhold utenſils of horn, wood, tin, copper. They devour carrion with woolfiſh rapacity. They ſteal poultry, and tear them in pieces

almoſt raw. Give them but food; and they are little ſolicitous about its quality, or about the mode in which it has been dreſſed. Of their dreſs, they are equally negligent. The intercourſe of the ſexes among them, is promiſcuous, as among the brutes: No laws of marriage are faithfully obſerved: No relation of affinity or conſanguinity impoſes any reſtraints upon luſt. They wander commonly about, in conſiderable bodies, averſe to regular labour, and to the habits of ſettled life. Any ſhelter ſufficient to ſcreen them from the open air, is ſatisfactory lodging. Their women are eminent in all the arts of fortune-telling. They form a ſort of community among themſelves, having a king and chiefs. They make excellent ſoldiers, whenever the habits of military diſcipline can be ſufficiently impreſſed upon them. They are accuſtomed to aſſemble in great bodies from all parts of each particular diſtrict, and to meet in an annual aſſembly in ſome particular place. They ſpeak among themſelves, a language of their own, different from all the languages ſpoken in all the countries of Europe through which they are diſperſed.

THESE peculiarities in the character and manners of this wandering race, have excited a ſtrong curioſity in many, to examine farther into their hiſtory

tory. They have been conjectured to be from Hungary, from Egypt, and from various other places. But the probability was long thought to be greateſt, in favour of Egypt. Later and more curious enquiry, has, however evinced that Egypt has no better a claim to be conſidered as the parent country of the gypſies, than Croſs-michael to be regarded as the native pariſh of old William Marſhall. The manners of the gypſies have, upon careful compariſon, been found to correſpond with wonderful exactneſs, with thoſe of a baſe and deteſted caſt among the native inhabitants of Hindoſtan. The language of the Hindoos has been found to correſpond with equal exactneſs to the language of the Gypſies. And after allowance had been made for that corruption which the language of the latter muſt neceſſarily have ſuffered from their roaming through countries in which different languages were ſpoken, and from their intercourſe with the inhabitants of thoſe countries,—after this allowance was made, it appeared undeniably certain, that the gypſies of Europe had brought their language from Hindoſtan. The period, too, at which as nearly as can be traced, the gypſies made their firſt appearance in Europe, anſwers with ſufficient exactitude, to the æra of one of the irruptions of the Mahometans from the north-weſt of Aſia, into Hindoſtan; thus admitting the

concluſion,

concluſion, that having fled from the face of the conquerors, the anceſtors of our European gypſies came onwards from one country to another, till they found their way into Europe.

I KNOW not, that any of our comic writers have availed themſelves of the ſtrongly marked peculiarities of the gypſy character;—or whether ſuch a character might be introduced with a ſuitable effect upon the ſtage. But, our noveliſts have not neglected the gypſies. *Fielding*, that moſt ſkilful painter of the intereſting peculiarities of low life has amuſed us with ſeveral ſketches of the gypſy character. And in two fine pieces of fictious writing of which the Learned and Elegant Dr W. Thomſon has been *accuſed*, the gypſies are among the moſt intereſting perſonages introduced on the ſcene; The Works I allude to, are "The Man of the Moon,"—and "Mammuth, or Human Nature Diſplayed."

I HAVE ſaid that the tinkers or gypſies are not at preſent numerous in Galloway, or the other parts of Scotland. As their numbers declined, however, the Sturdy Beggar, an animal little troubleſome, and little leſs worthleſs, began to infeſt theſe parts. By the uſe of ſuitable meaſures, this nuiſance has been alſo reſtrained or diſmiſſed. And indeed, the plan on which the POOR are provided for, through

Scotland

Scotland, is ſuch as to render the idle poor as little burthenſome as poſſible, to the induſtrious. No poor's rates are eſtabliſhed here as in England. They are left dependent on caſual charity. That charity is ever ſufficient for their maintenance, when their wants are not in a very ſhameful degree, the conſequences of their vices: While in receiving ſuch charitable ſupport, they have ſuch a tax of ſhame and pride to pay, as renders it dearly enough bought, and deters them from aſking it unleſs they cannot by other honeſt means procure ſubſiſtence. At every pariſh-church, on every ſabbath, a *plate* is either ſet at the door, to receive the contributions of the charitable, as they enter;——or *ladles* are carried round by the Elders, after the Service is concluded, and preſented to every one, that he may give for the uſe of the poor, what he thinks proper. This money is diſtributed by the Kirk-Seſſion, under the occaſional inſpection of the Landholders or *Heritors* of the pariſh. Thoſe who feel themſelves in circumſtances of helpleſs diſtreſs apply to the Kirk-Seſſion for relief. If ſatisfied of their want, and that their conduct is not ſo worthleſs as to render them undeſerving of aid; the Seſſion immediately relieve with ſuch a proportion of the charitable fund under their management, as can be prudently ſpared to them. This aid is continued, while the poor perſon's wants demand, and the fund is adequate

to

to ſupply it. It ſometimes happens, that a perſon who has received aid from the Kirk-Seſſion, dies poſſeſſed of ſome little property. In this caſe the poor are, of courſe, that perſon's heirs, unleſs there ſhall be more than enough to repay all that has been received from the Seſſion. The remainder then falls to the natural heirs.

Of all ſchemes that political wiſdom, or the cares of pious charity have contrived, in order to relieve want, without encouraging vicious idleneſs, this is perhaps the beſt. Yet, I muſt confeſs, that it often proves inadequate in pariſhes, which are thinly inhabited, and in thoſe which are very populous. Only in ſuch as are in a middle condition—as to population and wealth, has it been found fully ſufficient. In the former pariſhes,---the thinly inhabited, —it has generally been thought neceſſary to permit the pariſh poor to beg from door to door. If they are of fair character, they are received commonly with all the warm kindneſs of ancient hoſpitality. In other caſes, it has become uſual for the Seſſion to require from the Heritors, or Houſholders or both, ſuch an addition to the fund ſupplied by ſpontaneous charity as may be ſufficient for the relief of the poor. The charity of ſome individuals has left bequeſts to be *mortified* for the *behoof* of the poor. And, in ſome pariſhes, theſe are ſo conſiderable as

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to require little addition from the charity of the preſent generation. Theſe are all the charitable proviſions that have been yet made for the poor of Scotland. They are of ſuch a nature as neither to tempt the managers of the funds, to abuſe or embezzlement, nor to encourage the idleneſs and other vices of the poor.

THE *Friendly Societies* to which Government ſeem ready to give every encouragement, are the only additional means for providing for the poor, that I ſhould wiſh to ſee introduced into this country. The poor are thus rendered œconomical, and independent. The tax falls upon themſelves, but with the effect rather of a bounty than of a tax. Wherever theſe Societies have been formed, they have proved highly uſeful to the labourer and artizan. There ſeems to be a ſpirit in the preſent age, which promiſes to carry them farther. If in England, theſe were modelled into a general form, and employed inſtead of the preſent ſyſtem of poor's Rates; I ſhould think that the poor would be freed from many of their preſent temptations to vice and idleneſs, and the community at large of a heavy burthen. Yet, I confeſs myſelf to be too much a novice in theſe matters, to have any right to ſuggeſt a change of meaſures.——

WILLIAM MARSHAL, the gypſies, and the poor, have perhaps detained me too long on the muirs of *Mochrum*.—Only one petty village—and that hardly a village—appeared along this part of the highway. To the ſouth, I obſerved,—nearly midway, I think,—between Newton-Douglas and Glenluce, the houſe of *Craighlaw*, at ſome ſhort diſtance from the highway, and half-hid among wood. There was ſomewhat of an air of cultivation in its immediate environs. In ſome peat-moſſes, by the way-ſide, I perceived abundance of old oaks.

NEAR Glenluce, the aſpect of the country began to ſoften. Several houſes ſeemingly the habitations of men of ſome fortune appeared here and there. Fatter cattle appeared. And hedges, and green fields, and well-built walls of incloſure caught the eye.

BALCAIL, formerly the reſidence of *Major Roſs* is agreeably ſituate immediately above Glenluce. Mr Roſs was at conſiderable pains in improving and decorating the grounds lying adjacent to this houſe. He planted ſome wood in a glen, and on a hill, ſouth-eaſt from this houſe. He cultivated his arable grounds on a regular plan of agriculture: and dreſſed his graſs-fields with ſome care. The conſequences have been happy. The ſcene is charming in its ſituation

ſituation on the edge of a wild muir. The value of the lands has been greatly augmented. The example begins to be imitated.

GLENLUCE—to STRANRAER.

THE aſpect which the village of Glenluce preſents to the traveller approaching from the north-eaſt, is very pleaſing. It is irregularly placed on the lower part of a gentle declivity, on the ſea-ſhore, and at the head of a fine bay. A ſmall ſtream pours down upon the eaſtern ſide. The houſe of *Balcail* with the adjacent fields and wood are within the ſcene. The ſmoke from the houſes, the appearance of the villagers, and of their cattle, the trees ſurrounding their little gardens—are ſo many intereſting objects within the groupe. I was charmed with the village.

THIS village owes its origin partly to its having been the ſeat of a priory, founded by one of the Old Lords of Galloway,—and partly to the natural advantages of the ſituation at the head of the bay, and by the ſide of the ſtream. It has never riſen to be conſiderable. It ſeems at preſent to be growing. Some coaſting-ſloops belong to it, and come up near to the village, entering the mouth of the little river. The river is the *Luce*. I am not ſure

that any manufacture has yet been tried here with any conſiderable ſucceſs. The villagers are merchants or ſhop-keepers, inn and alehouſe-keepers, labourers, ſailors, and rural artizans. The inn at which I ſtopped to dine, is not uncomfortable or ill kept. A drove of Iriſh cattle paſſed through the village, while I was here. The tract of land interjected between *Glenluce-Bay* and *Loch-ryan*, is that called by Ptolemy the Geographer, *Novantum Cherſonæſus*: The Novantæ were the rude inhabitants whom the Romans found in theſe parts.

After reſting, and refreſhing myſelf at Glenluce, I continued my journey towards Stranraer. Immediately below the town, and towards the ſouth-eaſt, the country preſented a ſcene of decent farm-houſes and cultivated fields. As I went onwards to the ſouth-weſt, I ſoon paſſed near by the ſeat of Sir Thomas Hay of Park, ſurrounded with wood, and as I ſhould ſuppoſe, agreeably enough ſituate; although I had not ſuch an opportunity of viewing it, as I could have wiſhed. Immediately beyond the ſeat of Sir Thomas Hay, the highway entered a tract of flat, ſandy ground, which was indeed covered here and there with graſs, but which, I ſhould ſuppoſe hardly ſuſceptible of cultivation for crops, unleſs by the intermixture of a vaſt quantity of clay for manure. Sand is well

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known to be even a better manure than lime for the fertilizing of clay: and I ſhould think, that clay, if it could be obtained in ſufficient quantity, might, in like manner, be uſed to fertilize a tract of ſand.

But, the land in this neighbourhood is not invariably barren ſand. Much of it has a light, dry, and kindly ſoil, eaſily cultivated, and producing abundant crops. The ordinary manures are lime imported from White-haven, and delivered to the farmers at the price of one ſhilling and two pence for the Carliſle buſhel or herring-barrel. Large quantities of ſea-weeds are driven by ſouth-winds, upon Balgreggan head, in the bay of Luce: and theſe, impregnated as they are with ſalts, afford one of the beſt ſpecies of manure, that can be uſed. Potatoes, that enriching and pulverizing crop, are raiſed in large quantities in theſe parts; and, with oats and bear, form very conſiderable articles of export. Flax has, ſince the American war eſpecially, become a favourite article of crop, in this neighbourhood. I have not been particularly informed what profit any of theſe crops affords for the acre. But, it ſhould ſeem that the farmers find agriculture ſufficiently lucrative; for agricultural improvements are proſecuted, every year, with increaſing induſtry and perſeverance.——In theſe parts, as through the reſt of Galloway, black cattle are rear-

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ed and fed in great numbers. Theſe form, through all Galloway, ſtill the principal article of export. Horned cattle from Ireland are introduced into this neighbourhood: but the polled or *cowed* breed of Galloway are ſtill preferred. I think it not a whimſical or capricious preference that is given to theſe. The growth of horns certainly carries away ſome juices, which, if not ſecreted for this uſe, would go to the improving of the fleſh of the animal: and, beſides, cattle having horns are commonly more miſchievous and leſs manageable than thoſe without horns. Yet in ſome parts of Scotland, as I am informed,—in Dumbartonſhire eſpecially,—horned cows and bullocks are as eagerly preferred, as the polled in Galloway. Swine are a ſpecies of live-ſtock which I was much pleaſed to find bred and fattened in great numbers, in this neighbourhood. And, what is ſtill better, they are killed and cured here, and the carcaſes exported to London in hams, or barrelled pork. Upon the ſea-coaſt hardly any ſheep are fed for exportation. The mutton however of ſuch as *are* fed there, is peculiarly high flavoured. Geeſe, hens, rabbits from a warren on the bay of Luce, and a variety of the beſt articles of animal food are to be obtained here in ſufficient numbers, and at no exorbitant price. The price of the different ſpecies of labour is in theſe parts at a rate from one to two ſhillings for the day. Services,

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under the denomination of *Baillie*-work---ſuch as cutting peats, and conveying them home, when dried, cutting down corn, and ſometimes plowing and harrowing---are commonly performed over the whole county of Wigton by the farmers to their maſters.

SALT has been occaſionally manufactured on theſe coaſts: and the manufacture might be proſecuted with ſucceſs, were it not for a ſmuggling importation of Iriſh ſalt. Of the ſea-weeds thrown in upon theſe ſhores, ſome part are burnt into kelp, which is commonly exported to Ireland. The flax, raiſed here, is not exported unwrought, but ſpun into coarſe yarn, for that ſpecies of linen cloth, named Oſnaburghs, and prepared for the Weſt Indian market. Within the pariſh of Stonykirk are no fewer than four mills for dreſſing flax, and a bleachfield. In the ſame pariſh, an excellent mill has been lately erected for preparing pot or pearl-barley for the Liverpool market. As to the fiſhery on theſe coaſts; abundance of mackarel are taken about Lammas, in the bay of Luce. Salmons abound in the little rivers; but of theſe the fiſhery has been hitherto in a great meaſure neglected. Cod are taken in conſiderable quantities in the Iriſh channel: and this fiſhery is purſued through the whole year, with various ſucceſs.

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THE population of theſe parts, is conſiderably numerous, being, on an average, at the rate of an individual to every fifteen or, at leaſt, to every ſeventeen acres.

ON the lands of Garthland in this neighbourhood is a ſquare tower, forty five feet high, and having on its battlements, the date 1274, which is ſaid to have been a ſeat of the ancient Lords of Galloway. I have reaſon to believe, that the preſent Macdowalls of Garthland are deſcended from the line of thoſe ancient princes. In this neighbourhood too are ſome mounds or *moats* of a conical form: the original deſtination of which, as of others of the ſame appearance through Scotland, ſeems to have been,—for ſeats of courts of juſtice, or for military ſtations. One is four hundred and ſixty feet in circumference at the baſe, ſixty feet in height, and has a curious excavation on its ſummit.

THE Earl of Selkirk on his eſtate of Baldowan, Sir William Maxwell of Monreith, Admiral Keith Stewart of Glaſſerton, and ſeveral others of the landholders in theſe parts, have diſtinguiſhed themſelves by their care to ſet an example of highly improved agriculture on thoſe parts of their domains in their own immediate poſſeſſion. The fattening of cattle ſeems indeed to have been what they had chiefly

chiefly in view, in attempting ſuch improvements. But, while raiſing green crops, and labouring to procure the richeſt ſward of the moſt nouriſhing graſs; they have neceſſarily improved the natural fertility of the ſoil with conſiderable culture, have employed labourers numerous in huſbandry, and have reaped many fine crops of grain. I am happy to ſtate that theſe landholders have diſtinguiſhed themſelves by improved agriculture; believing as I do, that experiments in agriculture can never be gainful to thoſe by whom they are firſt tried, and that the farmers are therefore not to be expected to be the firſt to begin them. Galloway, once a country noted for wool and horſes, has ſince become, in the progreſs of induſtry and improvements, a cattle-country, and ſeems now likely to be, in a ſhort time remarkable for its agriculture, and its manufactures.

THE road between Glenluce and Stranraer is one of the beſt I have ever travelled. It leads through a level tract, for its whole extent. The country is generally green, divided, incloſed, and cultivated on all hands. The fences are commonly of turf or *ſods*; a ſpecies of fence leſs unpleaſing to the eye than the ſtone dyke; althongh not equal to the growing haw-thorn hedge. It is indeed bare of wood. But, ſo near the ſea-ſhore, it may be thought that wood would ſcarcely thrive; the

lands are more profitable in their preſent ſtate, than if they were covered with even the beſt timber; and it is not eaſy to perſuade people to be at an expence by which only their great grand-children, in whoſe fortunes they can be little intereſted, are to profit. —Yet, even on the ſea-ſhore, wood will thrive; as appears from the wood with which uninhabited iſlands are often overgrown: The firſt, the ſecond, the third, and even the fourth lines of the trees on the ſhores may partly be withered, and in part dwarfiſh: But, ſacrifice theſe; and the reſt will do well, and will protect the grounds lying within, from any bleſſing influence of the ſea air, and the ſea breezes.—I know not that the landholders of Scotland have yet thought to fix any conditions reſpecting planting, in their leaſes to their tenants. But, ſuch conditions might well be fixed, without the impoſition of any great hardſhip upon the tenant; and clumps and belts of trees thus ſcattered around ſo as to warm the country by ſhelter, and to operate the ſame effect as if we were carried a few degrees farther ſouth.

WITHIN a few miles of Stranraer, this road paſſes through the Earl of Stair's plantations near *Culhorn*. Theſe are extenſive: the pleaſure-grounds are laid out in the Dutch taſte: They were formed by that Earl of Stair, who diſtinguiſhed himſelf ſo eminently

eminently as a general and a ſtateſman. The late Earl of Stair diſtinguiſhed himſelf by ſome valuable little tracts which he publiſhed on the ſtate of the National Revenue,—and ſtill more by his care to promote the improvement of the country, and the wealth and comfort of the farmers and peaſantry upon his eſtate. He uſed to take farm after farm into his own poſſeſſion, and after incloſing and improving, to let it to tenants.—Lime is imported here from Ireland: And of this his Lordſhip was not ſparing. He encouraged the breed of the polled Galloway cattle. He introduced an excellent rotation of green and white crops. Many acres of his eſtate were thus improved to bring a rent of fifteen or twenty ſhillings an acre, for which, in their former condition, no tenant could afford to pay more than ſix-pence or a ſhilling an acre.---The preſent Earl of Stair has been long one of the moſt reſpectable diplomatic miniſters of the Britiſh Government.---Where the highway leads through the Earl of Stair's ornamented grounds, it paſſes for ſome length, between fine whin-hedges. Theſe ſeem to have been long carefully dreſſed. The whins have riſen to a great height Their appearance is ſingular and beautiful. Their ſtalks are ſtraight; their tops green and buſhy; but they are too bare and denuded below, to from a ſufficient fence. I ſhould ſuppoſe that whins intermingled with plants of the ſloe-or black-thorn might do better.

It was night before we reached Stranraer. With ſome difficulty, we gained admiſſion into the King's Arms inn, which was then crowded with company.

STRANRAER.

STRANRAER is a burgh of conſiderable antiquity; ſeated on the Bay of Loch-Ryan; and riſing nearly at the bottom of the bay, on the ſouthern ſide, on ground the inequalities of which ſeem to render it a diſadvantageous ſite for ſuch a town. The principal ſtreet is of great length, in proportion to the extent of the whole. Many of the houſes are of decent appearance. They ſeem to have been built chiefly about the beginning of the preſent century. From that period till lately, Stranraer ſeems to have been enlarged by few additional buildings. But whole ſtreets of new houſes have been lately built. No regular plan of arrangement has been obſerved when the ſtreets of this town were firſt formed. Even at preſent, they are ſtill ſet down in a diſorderly and ſtraggling diſpoſition.

STRANRAER is eſteemed a port in the Cuſtom-houſe books. It has a collector and the uſual ſet of officers for the collection of the cuſtoms. Portpatrick, on the ſouthern ſide of the promontory, is a *member* of the port of Stranraer.---This town is underſtood

ſtood to contain at preſent, about two thouſand inhabitants: It has ſome trade,---to the Baltic, to Ireland, to England and perhaps to the Weſt Indies. The Cotton-manufacture has been lately tried here. To the encouragement which this manufacture has given to population, is, the late growth of the town moſt probably owing. Stranraer unavoidably derives ſome advantage, from its being a thoroughfare for travellers between Scotland and Ireland. It has ſeveral large inns, the beſt of which were at this time crowded with people of rank waiting for a fair wind by which they might ſail over to Donaghadee.

Mr Taylor, the landlord of the inn which I entered, keeps alſo a coffee-houſe for the accommodation of ſome of the townſmen who have encouraged him by a ſubſcription to procure newſpapers, and to fit up one of his rooms for this purpoſe. He conducted me to read the newſpapers in this coffee-houſe. Some Gentlemen of decent appearance ſat in the boxes. I entered inſenſibly into converſation with one or two of them. They were eagerly and paſſionately intereſted about the progreſs of French Democracy, and the earneſtneſs with which the Roman Catholics of Ireland, aided by the Diſſenters, were then preparing to demand the abolition of thoſe laws which placed them

them in a ſtate of ſubjection and inferiority——in reſpect to the Proteſtants. The vicinity of Ireland appeared to have inflamed in thoſe gentlemen the ſpirit of national rivalry. They regarded with high indignation the very idea of the Iriſh papiſts claiming legal relief from any hardſhips, from which they might, at any time, eſcape by profeſſing themſelves Proteſtants. They were no leſs irritated againſt the Iriſh Preſbyterians whom they believed to have at this time aided and abetted the Roman Catholics, in the hope of finally dividing Ireland from all connection with great Britain and of forming it into a ſeparate republic. With this revelling ſpirit of liberty that had ariſen in Ireland, they naturally connected in their reflections, the efforts of democracy in France. The latter appeared to have prompted and encouraged the former: And the gentlemen whom I thus met in the coffee-houſe at Stranraer were conſequently hoſtile in their wiſhes alike to the *Democrates* of France, and to the Reformers of Britain and Ireland.

A SPIRIT of rivalry prompted by near vicinity, might indeed contribute to inflame the zeal of theſe gentlemen againſt the attempts which the Iriſh, and even not a few of our brethren in Scotland and England ſeemed then ready to make upon the Britiſh Conſtitution. But their zeal was ſupported

by

by very juſt and rational ideas of the happineſs of their preſent condition, of the Evils of Political Change, and of the conſtant miſeries of democratical government. They maintained, that the policy was equally wiſe and juſt which had ſubjected the Roman Catholics in Ireland, to the reſtraints of which they now complained. They aſſerted, that the Britiſh Legiſlature had invariably ſhewn a diſpoſition to cheriſh and relieve them,---in proportion as they appeared to lay aſide thoſe religious and and political prejudices, which had made the reſtrictions to which they were ſubjected, neceſſary for the ſafety of the ſtate. They obſerved that if the political and civil condition of the Papiſts in Ireland were all at once greatly changed; the newneſs of their ſituation might give a giddneſs to their ſentiments and opinions, which might render them inſolent, factious, and turbulent. The Iriſh Diſſenters they thought ſtill more blameable than the papiſts, as have nothing but envy of the Eſtabliſhed Church, to prompt their clamour of grievances. They ſeemed to dread, that the artful, perfidious policy of the French might too eaſily ſeduce the levity and ficklenes of the Iriſh into traitorous correſpondence with them. They were equally afraid, that the ſame imprudent leviry of character, and that ferocity of manners and of temper which is ſtrongly expreſſed in the propenſity of the Iriſh to duelling,

---might

——might hurry them into open rebellion, before Government could have time to hear their complaints to eſtimate their grievances, and to grant relief,---if relief were needed.

THEIR indignation ſeemed to me, to be too violent againſt the Iriſh: their fears exceſſive. I could not agree with them in thinking the Iriſh likely to be ſeduced into any treaſonable correſpondence with the enemies of Britain; nor could I ſuppoſe it poſſible for the Britiſh Government to refuſe to the Iriſh Catholics, the redreſs of every real grievance; or for the Iriſh Diſſenters to plot the deſtruction of a government under which they were flouriſhing and happy.——I was led to ſuggeſt, that the emigration of ſuch numbers of the French into Britain and other countries,---muſt give to the countries in to which they were received, an acceſſion of uſeful population,---of hands which might be happily employed in our manufactures or agriculture. The revocation of the Edict of Nantz, which drove ſo many thouſands of Frenchmen into exile, introduced in other countries various manufactures in which the French then excelled their neighbours, but which have ſince flouriſhed chiefly in thoſe ſeats in which they were eſtabliſhed by the Proteſtant Emigrants from France.——

BEING

Being now nearly on the confine of Ayrſhire, I cannot leave Galloway, without reflecting again with pleaſure, on the good ſenſe and the virtuous manners of its inhabitants. They are ſtrangers to bigotry in religion, in cuſtoms, in political principles. Yet are they equally free of that levity and ſicklenefs which prompts capricious change in theſe matters. The diſſenters in Galloway are, comparatively, few. The progreſs of their manners and the alteration of their cuſtoms, is happily ſlow, yet not ſtationary. In their political ſentiments, they are the ſteady friends of Government, yet rationally jealous of their liberties. Some of the landholders in Galloway have been lately diſpoſed to wiſh a reform in the laws by which the County Elections are regulated. But, the people, in general, have diſcovered an abhorrence of that atheiſtical, and democratic ſpirit which has ravaged France and Flanders, and which has prompted the formation, and governed the meaſures of our Aſſociations of Friends to the People. Nor is it ſimple ſtupidity, want of information concerning public tranſactions and events, or any ſluggiſhneſs of character that has preſerved the Gallovidians faithful, in theſe times of turbulence, to their ſovereign, and to the Britiſh Conſtitution. They are active, accute, and intelligent; and no leſs eager than the inhabitants of the other provinces of the Britiſh Empire, to acquaint themſelves with

the news of the times. But, the ſteadineſs of their temper renders them averſe to change. They know themſelves to be well: and they prudently fear, that political revolution may not tend to make their circumſtances better.—Theft, robbery, and murder are crimes almoſt unknown in Galloway. Drunkenneſs, unchaſtity are---comparatively ſpeaking---rare. The inhabitants of Galloway may appear to be, in ſome inſtances, indolent and deficient in inventive ingenuity. But, this is only where circumſtances have not yet preſented ſufficient incitements to ſtimulate their induſtry, and rouſe their ingenuity. Galloway has long been a breeding country for men, no leſs than for cattle. No province in Scotland has ſent out a greater number of young men into all parts of the world: And theſe, when placed on ſcenes where their induſtry and ingenuity might be ſucceſsfully exerted, have diſtinguiſhed themſelves ſo as to prove, that Galloway is no Caffraria, or Bœotia.---As Galloway continues to be opened up by roads and canals: as agriculture makes farther progreſs through it: as manufactures advance from the coaſts through the inland country: the natives of Galloway will come, more and more, to exert at home, that activity, perſeverance, acute penetration, and inventive ingenuity, by which they have often already diſtinguiſhed themſelves abroad. The inhabitants of Galloway do not readily

eily enlift in the army. But, fuch as have gone for foldiers, have commonly been diftinguifhed among their fellows, for bravery, fteadinefs and decency of manners.

THE burgh of Stranraer is chiefly the property of Lord Stair or at leaft dependent upon his lordfhip.—The circumjacent grounds are alfo, for the greater part, within his lordfhip's eftate. The agriculture is fufficiently improved in fome places. In others, it feems in the way of improvement. Lime is imported from England and Ireland. A compoft of peat-earth, dung, and lime has been ufed for manure by fome of the farmers who are beft acquainted with the qualities of the foil. The common round of crops---is--three of oats, fix of grafs; then oats again.—This whole tract of level country has the appearance of having been under water,--- if one may judge by the lownefs and equality of level with which it fpreads out under the adjacent hills,—by its fandy foil, or by the nature of the ftrata which are found upon digging downwards, to a great depth.

THE promontory or headland, extending between the bay of Loch-Ryan, and the Irifh channel, is called, in the dialect of the country, the *Rinns* of Galloway. From its northern horn, Fairland Point,

to the Mull of Galloway, its length may be about thirty Engliſh miles; its breadth varying from three to ſix miles: the whole area may be, thus eſtimated at---from ninety to an hundred ſquare miles. Its products are corn and cattle. Oats are the favourite article of crop. Bear or barley is alſo raiſed in conſiderable abundance. Rye graſs and clover are cultivated in preference to the natural ſward of graſs. Some ſmall quantities of grey-peaſe and horſe-beans are raiſed, rather for domeſtic uſe, than for exportation.---Beſide the other manures above mentioned, ſea-ſhells are found in many places, and are laid, with great advantage upon the lands. A ſoft ſea ſand, either taken from within the flood-mark, or dug in lands that have been formerly covered with the ſea, is found to anſwer well as a manure. The agriculture of all theſe parts is in a ſtate of rapid advancement and improvement. A larger quantity of grain is exported on every ſucceeding year. Ayr, Greenock, Glaſgow are the chief markets. The improvements in huſbandry, affording food better in quality, and in greater quantity, have at the ſame time improved the breed of the cattle, and have enabled the farmers to raiſe them to a larger ſize, and to fatten them better. With theſe improvements, population has been proportionately increaſed. The diſtrict may be about one-tenth part more populous than it was, thirty years ago.

Villages

Villages ariſe, here and there, from time to time.--- The ſhores afford abundance of fiſh, of all kinds. Near the Star-point in the peninſula of Kirkcolm pariſh, is, a fine bank of excellent oyſters. On the ſame coaſt, and formed partly by the ſhores of Kirkcolm is a beautiful baſon called the *Wig*, large enough to afford a ſafe retreat to almoſt any number of the ſmall coaſting veſſels. The bay of Lochryan is a noble and convenient harbour,---affording ſufficient depth of water for ſhips of any burthen; good, anchoring grounds, or a ſoft beach; and having no ſhoals or ſunken rocks near its mouth, to obſtruct the entrance: Perhaps the whole coaſt between the two headlands of Galloway and Cantire affords no more commodious harbour.

From STRANRAER *to* BALLANTRAY.

AFTER ſpending a night in Stranraer, I proceeded, on a Sunday morning, rainy and uncomfortable, towards Ballantray. I had accidentally met with a young gentleman from Ireland, whom I had formerly known in Edinburgh. He was now proceeding to ſtudy in Glaſgow, and became the companion of my journey between Stranraer, and the intended ſcene of his ſtudies.

OUR

Our way now led along the North-Weſt ſhore of the Bay of Loch-ryan. The coaſt is bare of wood. The agriculture ſeems not to be very perfect. But, the country was not deſtitute of verdure; and the fluctuating waters of the bay,—the appearance of Stranraer at its bottom, and the *Rinnes* bounding it on the ſouth-weſt, preſented a grand and intereſting proſpect, which to me, had at the ſame time ſomething novel and peculiar in it, by which my attention was powerfully arreſted, and my mind amuſed. Parcels of ſea-ware lay, here and there upon the ſhore. I was informed by people of the country, whom we met on their way to church, that the ſea-ware was uſed for manure wherever it could be obtained on theſe ſhores, and was preferfered to every other ſpecies of manure which they had occaſion to try. Here and there were farm-houſes and hamlets along this ſhore. Near a place called *Under-Meſſeu* is the ſeat of a woollen-manufacture. The cotton-manufacture begins, alſo to be tried in theſe parts.

As we proceed onwards, the country on our right hand became more and more rough and bleak in its aſpect. The *Rinnes*, on the oppoſite ſide of the bay, ſeemed, however, rather to aſſume a more agreeable appearance towards its extremity.

At

At the diſtance of a few miles from Stranraer, we found a village, named *Cairn*, having near it a landing place for ſmall veſſels, at which ſeveral veſſels then lay. One had juſt come in with cattle from the port of *Bangor*, on the Iriſh coaſt. The villagers were almoſt all employed either in aſſiſting at the landing of the cattle, or in ſeeing them come on ſhore. The buſtle which this buſineſs occaſioned, ſeemed highly unſuitable to the ſanctity of the day. But, it was neceſſary to bring them on ſhore, ſince they had been ſhipped ſo late on the preceding day, as to leave it impoſſible for them to reach the bay of Lochryan ſooner than on the ſabbath morning.—The troubleſome confuſion and indecency, attending the landing of cattle on a Sunday, cannot but be extremely diſagreeable to the pious inhabitants of theſe ſhores. The clergy muſt be particularly ſhocked at it. To them will the people naturally look for exertions to check it. But, wanting civil authority, what can they do? I cannot ſufficiently applaud the wiſdom and ſpirit with which Mr Mackenzie, the worthy, ingenious, and eloquent miniſter of Portpatrick, has applied himſelf to check this profanation of the ſabbath, within his own pariſh. Finding it vain to inſiſt on the ſanctification of the Lord's day, if the dealers in Iriſh cattle were permitted to profane it, at their pleaſure; and ſenſible, at the ſame time, that he had not

not civil authority to reſtrain them:—Mr Mackenzie gave notice to his congregation, that he, their paſtor, highly diſapproved of that practice by which the ſabbath was ſo wantonly profaned,—that he earneſtly wiſhed them to diſcountenance it,—and that if any of them ſhould in future lend aſſiſtance at the bringing of cattle on ſhore, on the ſabbath, he would immediately proceed againſt them with eccleſiaſtical cenſures, and with every eccleſiaſtical puniſhment which it was competent for him to inflict,—making an exception only in favour of that caſe, when the owners of the cattle ſhould make oath before the neareſt magiſtrate, that they had left the Iriſh ſhore at ſuch a time, upon the preceeding day, that they might have reached the Scottiſh ſhore on the evening of Saturday, had they not been unexpectedly retarded on their paſſage by contrary winds. This bold and well-intended exertion was as ſucceſsful as Mr Mackenzie deſired. His pariſhioners have ever ſince refuſed their aſſiſtance to the drivers of Iriſh cattle, on the ſabbath; and thoſe men preſume not to land their cattle in his pariſh, on this day, unleſs in the caſe of neceſſity. I wiſh, the ſame meaſure were uſed by all parochial clergymen, to check ſuch indecent violations of the ſanctity of the ſabbath!—I took occaſion to hold ſome converſation with the owner of thoſe cattle; and was informed, that he had purchaſed them in Ireland, for—between

twcen four pounds, ten ſhillings,---and five pounds a head in Ireland,---and expected to ſell them at Gatehouſe of Fleet, and Dumfries, for ſix pounds, a head.

THE inn at *Cairn* is not very large, nor exceedingly commodious; but we found it occupied by very civil people. We were to breakfaſt and corn our horſes here. While breakfaſt was prepared, we walked through an adjacent park, into the uninhabited houſe of Mrs Dunlop of Cairn. It ſtands within half a furlong of the ſhore; cloſe by the baſe of a rugged, precipitous, ſchiſtous hill; which where the rocks are not bare, is brown over, with heath. Around this houſe are ſome ſtraight avenues, walks, and hedges in the Dutch faſhion. In theſe, ſome beautiful evergreens are intermixed. Some riſing aſhes, elms, and pines are ſcattered on the contiguous part of the declivity of the hill above. This houſe was built, an hundred years ago. For theſe laſt forty years, it has been uninhabited. It contains ſome ſpacious rooms. Several fine paintings have been left to fade and moulder away, on the ſtair-caſe. It has been by degrees diſfurniſhed of almoſt every thing elſe. The partitions ſtill remain: and the roof, although ruinous, is not yet entirely deſtroyed: but, the lapſe of a few years will leave nothing but the bare walls. This houſe,

not being of remote antiquity, ſeems to beſpeak by its decay, either the misfortunes or neglect of its proprietors. Yet, its ſituation on Lochryan-bay ſheltered by wild romantic hills, and commanding a wide and ſingular proſpect, on its front,—is—one of thoſe, to which above all others, one might delight to retire occaſionally, from the luxury and refinement of great towns, and from the ordinary and familiar beauties of more populous and cultivated ſcenes in the country. On the ſide of the hill above this houſe, is a ſlate-quarry which has been wrought for theſe many years. There is no probability of its being ſuddenly exhauſted: For it is not wrought with any great earneſtneſs, or to any great extent: and the ſtrata are, comparatively, immenſe.

In the parks into which the narrow plain between the baſe of the hills, and the ſhore of the bay was ſubdivided, I obſerved black-cattle of the Galloway bre.d; and ſwine of a ſmall prick-eared ſpecies. Of the fleſh of the latter, we had ſome ſlices of delicate bacon at breakfaſt. Some corn fields appeared here and there. The corn was cut, but ſtill in the ſhock.

We continued our journey along the bay. The proſpects were to me the moſt intereſting I had yet ſeen. The bay; the opening channel; the peninſula of the *Rinnes* of Galloway; the rocks riſing in ſingular

ſingular forms on the right hand; the fragments, ſometimes ſmaller, ſometimes greater, which having fallen from them, were ſcattered, often in ſtrangely picturesque diſpoſitions, over the plain; the paltry cottages; and the ſimple air and garb of the peaſants,—all rendered the proſpect ſufficiently intereſting.

THE favourite Scottiſh ſong, "Open to me, Love Gregory!"—or, "The Laſs of the Lochryans," alludes to the ſcenery of this bay. The date of the ſong I cannot trace. But, it is probably founded on a real incident. Gregory may have been an Iriſhman, a Mankſman, or a Highlander from the coaſt of Argyle-ſhire; and may have firſt ſeduced, and then deſerted ſome lovely maid of rank in this part of Galloway, whoſe diſtreſs and death afterwards ſo moved his pity and remorſe, as to make him follow her to the grave. I think this one of the fineſt of our old love-ballads. The air, as ſung by *Urbani*, is charming. I have often heard it affectingly ſung by old women, in Galloway. The ballad of "Lord Thomas and Fair Annet," differs very little from "Love Gregory," I ſuppoſe them to have been both founded on the ſame events, and to be only variations of the ſame ſong.

We at length reached the confine between Galloway and Ayr-ſhire. A ſmall rivulet, named the *March-burn*, marks the limit. Pouring down where the hills riſe with a ſteep declivity, it falls, immediately above the highway, in a fine caſcade. It is covered where it croſſes the highway, with an handſome bridge. The *braes* are rough with hazels, black and white thorns, briars and other brambles. The ſheep on the hills above, are the ſmall Galloway breed; and ſuch alſo are the black cattle. The wool is of middling quality, and is manufactured in the country. The mutton is uncommonly excellent.

Still as we went on, the ſcenery was to me new, ſtrange, wild, and often ſublime. The hills ſtill towered up loftier and wilder above. The expanſe of the ſea opened wider before us. The road winded among broken rocks, and inſulated mounts. Rivulets poured here and there down the ſides of the hills, in every variety of deſcent and courſe.

At length, the highway, turning from the ſea-ſhore, conducted us up the vale of *Glen-nap*, towards *Ballintray*. The river *Nap* or *Glen-nap* divides this vale. A range of high hills ſhelters it on each ſide. It is of moderate width. Farm-houſes are ſcattered through it. In length it extends ſeveral miles. On the north-weſt quarter of this vale, the

foil

ſoil ſeems to be not deficient in fertility. The houſes are chiefly low, awkward, thatched cottages. Whins grow here and there over the fields. The vale affords but little hay. We obſerved the cattle in ſeveral places in folds. The houſes of *Glenlee* and of *Whinnard* are handſomer than the reſt. The river runs with a meandering courſe; and the road often croſſes it. This road has long been infamous as one of the worſt in Scotland. The difficulty of this whole way between Stranraer and *Maybole* was indeed long ſuch as almoſt to cut off Galloway from all intercourſe with Ayr-ſhire, on this ſide. A great part of it has been lately improved: And a turnpike has been eſtabliſhed near the head of *Glen-nap*; at which is levied a toll, to be expended in repairing this road.

THE country opened wide before us, as we aſcended the hill which ſhelters *Glen-nap* on the north-eaſt. All was dark-brown heath, ſometimes broken by an extent of moraſs,—ſometimes ſpreading over a tract of dry, level ground, *plated* over with a thin layer of peat-earth,—and ſometimes riſing over lofty *cloud-capped* hills. Of theſe hills, the loftieſt are *Caerlock* and *Ben-y-raird*, which tower up with all the grandeur of the Highland mountains. The vale of *Glen-nap* would produce a charmingly romantic effect amidſt the circumjacent ſcenery,—if ſome

nobleman

nobleman or gentleman of large fortune, ſhould build a ſtately houſe ſomewhere in the vale, and ſhould cultivate and ornament the whole with all the care and taſte that the Genius of Agriculture, and of Ornamental Gardening might ſuggeſt.

WHILE my eye ranged over theſe wild *heaths*, I was led to reflect on the various uſes for which our ſimple anceſtors employed this plant. It covered their huts. It ſerved them for fuel. And if tradition may be truſted, they brewed from it a beverage which they drank as ale. They had then little or no grain, and none of thoſe fruits from which an intoxicating juice is preſſed. From *heather*,—perhaps with an intermixture of *bog-gall*,—they might prepare a weak, exhilarating, and intoxicating liquor. It is a common tradition among the peaſantry through almoſt all parts of Scotland, that the *Pechts* brewed from heath, a liquor greatly ſuperior to our common ale. They point out tracts of level or nearly level heath, from which the ſtones appear to have been carefully gathered away,—as fields which the *Pechts* mowed, and carried the crop of heath---to prepare their ale from it, by decoction. The Gaelic words, too, for *drinking* are *ol elmi*, and *luſadh*, the latter of a derivation which certainly implies the liquor drunk to have been a decoction of herbs,

herbs. It might be worth while for ſome curious Antiquarian to make a *brouſt* of *heather* ale.

ADVANCING towards Ballan-tray down the oppoſite ſide of the hill which we had aſcended from *Glen-nap*;——we paſſed by the farm of *Auchencroſs*, and obſerved near the farm-houſe, one of thoſe moats which I have already often noticed, as being frequent through Scotland, and as having been originally intended either as places of burial for the dead, or,---more probably---as the ſeats for courts of judicature.

IN theſe parts, and in various others, through Scotland, are occaſionally found what are called *Elf-ſtones* or *Elf arrows*, and are believed to be uſed by the elves, in inflicting inviſible wounds upon cattle. Theſe are evidently the heads of the arrows uſed by our remote anceſtors before the uſe of iron was yet known in Scotland. In thoſe times, the Scottiſh warriour was armed with a bow of tough wood; a ſtring which he formed of the *gut* of ſome animal: His arrows were pointed with flint or carnelian: His long lance was pointed in the ſame manner: His hatchet for domeſtic uſes, was equally of ſtone: Cannal-coal, horns, bones, ſhells were the materials of which his other utenſils were formed.——

We were ſoon again upon the ſea-ſhore, and croſſed the head of a narrow, but beautiful and fertile plain, lying immediately before Ball-an-tray. On this plain I obſerved a regular circle of upright ſtones, at certain diſtances: one of the moſt perfect of thoſe called Druidical circles, that I had yet ſeen. The river of *Ard-Stinchar* pours down on the farther ſide of this plain; dividing it from the village of Ball-an-tray. The ſoil of the narrow ſtripes of arable ground lying along theſe ſhores appears to be abundantly fertile. The banks of the *Stinchar* are adorned by no trees or underwood. A commodious bridge carries the highway acroſs this river. Formerly, the only road led through the town of Ball-an-tray, and along the windings of the ſhore, to *Girvan*. But, as this was equally dangerous and difficult, a new road has been lately formed, which leads up the bank of the Stinchar, and acroſs the country, to *Girvan*.

From this ſtation, the ſea appears landlocked, ſo as to preſent a ſpacious bay, about thirty leagues in diameter. The coaſts of Galloway and Ayr-ſhire, ----of Down and Antrim in Ireland,---the eaſt coaſt of Argyle-ſhire, and a part of Dumbarton-ſhire---- form the boundaries within which the ſea appears to be confined. On theſe ſhores are four light-houſes; one at the newly conſtructed harbour of Portpatrick,

Portpatrick,—another at Donaghadee,—a third on the Mull of Cantire,—and a fourth on the iſle of Cumbray. When the day is fair, and the air pure of miſt, a ſpectator, may, with high enjoyment, view this wide range of proſpect from the ſide or ſummit of any of the adjacent hills. The iſles of Sana, Arran, Lamlaſh, Bute, the two Cumbrays, and the *conic rock* of Ailſa appear amidſt the waters.

This diſtrict, where the highway has hardly yet been made tolerable, cannot be ſuppoſed to be well opened up by croſs-roads. It is almoſt appropriated to the purpoſes of paſturage. Only on the verge of the coaſt does the hand of agricultural induſtry appear to have been yet exerted. The ſoil is there commonly a light, dry, hazel-coloured mould, upon a gravel bottom. As the hills recede from the ſhore, they are diverſified by many inequalities. The heath with which they are chiefly covered, has intermixed with it, a ſpecies of thin, long graſs, called by the people of the country *Ling*. On the ſhores is abundance of broad-leaved ſea weeds forming excellent manure for the lands;—for in this neighbourhood, they are not, in any conſiderable quantity, burnt into kelp.

The fiſhery of ſalmons at the foot of the river Stinchar, affords to the proprietor, an annual rent

of eighty pounds ſterling. About twenty years ſince, ſhoals of excellent herrings commonly came upon this coaſt in the end of harveſt and the beginning of winter: theſe now appear only in ſpring. Great quantities of haddocks and whitings were formerly taken in the ſame ſeaſon. Cod, ſkate, and ling are now more frequently caught. Sail-fiſhes come upon this coaſt, on the firſt or ſecond week of June. The villagers of Ballantray kill them with harpoons. And the liver of one of the beſt of theſe fiſhes yields from forty to fifty gallons of oil. They remain only three or four weeks on the coaſt.

THE town of Ball-an-tray is of conſiderable antiquity. In ballads, it is diſtinguiſhed by the name of *old Ballantray*. I am inclined to ſuſpect that it may be the *Rerigonium* or *Berigonium* of Ptolemy, the Geographer. That town muſt undoubtedly have ſtood upon either the *Stinchar* or the *Girvan*. The vicinity of the above-mentioned Druidical circle ſeems to confirm the conjecture, that here might be an ancient ſettlement of the firſt inhabitants of Carrick. Here are the remains of a caſtle which has been ſpacious, ſtately and ſtrong. Its walls are built of ſchiſtous, ſhorlaceous, and ſand-ſtones. It ſtands almoſt cloſe over the river; and that part of the walls which ſtands contiguous to the river is the moſt perfect. Concerning the ancient condition and

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the original poſſeſſors of this caſtle, I have, in vain ſought ſatisfactory information. I ſuppoſe its name to have been *The Caſtle of Ard Stinchar*: and it may have been the ſeat of the Kennedies of *Ard-Stinchar*. Being ſituate in a narrow paſs, and commanding two paſſages through Carrick,——that along the ſhore,——and that which leads up the river Stinchar;——it muſt have been of great importance in the turbulent, military times of Scotland: While its ſituation on the coaſt would render it equally important as a place of ſecurity,—where the neighbouring inhabitants might find protection when alarmed by the piratical incurſions of the Iriſh.

BALLANTRAY, although ancient, is, however, only a petty village. The dwelling-houſes in the village, are, moſt of them paltry huts. It has been long notable as a neſt of ſmugglers. Some new houſes are riſing in the village. The harveſt ſeemed to have been no leſs backward here, than in other places of the country. The pot-herbs in the little gardens had a ſtunted, unthriving aſpect. Here is an inn, large enough indeed for the ſituation, but not well kept. We refreſhed ourſelves haſtily in this inn. Wiſhing to make ſome enquiries of the landlord, I deſired by a civil meſſage to be favoured for a few minutes with his company. But, this favour Mr *M'Kiſſock* did not chuſe to

grant me. Pleaſed as I am with the ſucceſs with which the iron-works of the Carron-Company have for theſe many years been conducted,---and fond of that furniture which gives a room an air of comfortable ſnugneſs,---I was glad to ſee one of the Caſt Carron grates in the parlour of this inn,---which was otherwiſe, neither comfortable nor well furniſhed.----The inſcriptions on the windows of inns are commonly baſe effuſions of folly and obſcenity. Here, however, I found an exception. On the window of this parlour was a name inſcribed, which I could not read:---After the name followed theſe incidents in the inſcriber's hiſtory,---That he was from Antigua, and had ſpent ten years in the Weſt Indies; concluding with the pathetic exclamation, happily introduced,----*dh fata! aſpera fata!* He might make this quotation with feeling, who had, in early youth perhaps torn himſelf from the ſociety which might be endeared to him by every tender tie; had gone in voluntary exile, into a diſtant climate, and had perhaps engaged in a diſagreeable employment, to earn ſome little fortune, which before he could acquire, perhaps his health and conſtitution might be waſted. But what if, after acquiring this competency, the hapleſs exile might return to his native country, and there find parents, brothers, ſiſters, friends, miſtreſs,---all whom he had fondly longed to meet again,---and of whom the remembrance

remembrance had given an inexpreſſible charm to the idea of his native country,——what if he had found all theſe dead, diſperſed or eſtranged from him, at his return!--What ir circumſtances obliged him again to tear himſelf from them!——While I read this inſcription, my fancy naturally awaked to this train of melancholy ſentiments and images; my heart ſympathiſed with the feelings of the writer: my eyes were filled with tears.

Well, alas! my I, too, take up the ſame exclamation, *Ah, fata! aſpera fata!* Divided almoſt in infancy from my father's family; purſuing literature, of which I have been ever fond, through many difficulties, and with little ſucceſs: often deceived in friendſhips which I have been ever ready to form with a ſimple, open heart; ſuffering often for candour as for weakneſs, and for ſincerity as for malice; abuſed, at times, for the errours of no ungenerous paſſions, and for the miſtakes of no criminal inadvertency, as if debaſed by meanneſs, by ſtupidity, by guilt; ſeeing the companions of my early days, ſome gone to that country *from whoſe bourne no traveller returns*,---others ſcattered through diſtant climes, dead to candid virtue, and to the tenderneſs of genuine friendſhip,---alive only to the calls of narrow ſelfiſhneſs, to the buſtling employments, and the noiſy, inſipid pleaſures of the world!---Ah, fata! aſpera fata!——But, perhaps the excellence

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moſt worthy of being aſpired at, is a wiſdom too remote from cunning, a virtue, though mild, yet too unaccommodating, a ſenſibility too tremblingly alive for the crooked paths, the rude rencounters, the dreary proſpects of this weary life! There is a pleaſure in contemplating human life with cordial benignity, and in guarding the heart againſt the gradual encroachments of ſelfiſhneſs. The eye and the hand of a beneficent providence is over all. This life is but a ſhort paſſage to a better. Happy they who can chearfully exclaim with the poet—

I care not, fortune, what you me deny:
You cannot rob me of free nature's grace;
You cannot veil the beauties of the ſky,
Thro' which Aurora ſhews her brightening face;
You cannot bar my conſtant feet to trace
The woods and lawns, by living ſtreams, at eve:
Let health my nerves and finer fibres brace,
And I their toys to the great Children leave:
Of fancy, reaſon, virtue, nought can me bereave.

BALLANTRAY being ſtill frequented by ſmugglers; ſoldiers are frequently ſtationed here. I found no fewer than twenty two in it, as I paſſed. Several of them muſt certainly have been very ill lodged. The ordinary inhabitants of the village are about three hundred in number.—The climate is mild, favourable alike to the health and the labours of man, and to the rearing and feeding of cattle.——

Ballantray—to Girvan.

OUR ſtay at the inn in Ballantray was ſhort. We continued our journey along the ſhore. Before we had advanced far, we entered upon the ſea-beach, and had a fine ride along the ſands for a mile or two. The rocks roſe above us, on one hand, in various fanciful ſhapes. The ſea roared on the other. On the top of a low hill, near Ballantray, I obſerved the ruins of an old windmill. There was a time when windmills were more common in Scotland, than mills driven by water. The ruins of ſuch mills are ſtill to be ſeen on various heights. They ſtand lonely and deſolate, as if overthrown in the combat with ſome Don Quixote, and diſmantled by the victor.

AT length, the beach became again rocky; and the highway turned from the ſhore, up the ſteep ſide of a rocky hill. The rocks in which this hill terminated, on the ſhore, looked, with a bold and frowning projection, over the waves. Under the ſouth-eaſtern edge, is a cave, the retreat of ſmugglers. We rod up to it. I entered. It extends a good way backward, but without having any interior receſſes. All the adjacent rocks are porphyry,

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nearly of the character of porphyry: clay and iron, intermixed with ſiliceous earth. I picked up and brought away ſeveral ſpecimens. We turned, and with difficulty aſcended the hill. It was broken into ridges. The road was, in one place carried in a line by which a ſmall ſegment, of a curiouſly pictureſque form, was cut off from the extremity of the hill. Looking round, we remarked on the plain behind, towards Ballantray, ſome large fragments of rocks, which ſeemed to have been artificially brought together,---for what purpoſe I could not gueſs. The wind now blew violently. The waves daſhed with violence on the beach, and againſt the rocks. Numbers of ſea-fowls floated before the billows; diving ſometimes to ſuffer them to paſs over. The ſhore preſented itſelf, as we went on, in many a ſtrange aſpect. In one place a pit was curiouſly ſcooped out; and within that pit a conic rock or pile of ſand roſe up, as if artificially reared. ---The road ſometimes approached the edge of the rocks, where they towered with the loftieſt elevation over the billows. The wind blew with violence. A ſtorm of hail battered our faces. Hardly could we ſit on our horſes, or hold our hats upon our heads. Night was beginning to fall, and the air darkening. The rock of Ailſa appeared, at a diſtance; riſing up black and frowning, like the terrific Genius of the Cape, ſo nobly conceived, and ſo impreſſively

impreſſively pictured by Camoens. This imagery was awful and elevating. As it returns upon my imagination, I feel my heart partly tremble for terrour, and partly ſwell with the conception of ſublimity. Thoſe parts of the Weſt Highlands which I viſited, had nothing equally intereſting.

THE iſle or rock of *Ailſa* lies about four or five leagues north-weſt from Ballantray. Its figure is conical, its top covered with heath and graſs. Goats, rabbits, and ſea-fowls in countleſs numbers, are its only inhabitants. It is rented from the Earl of Caſſilis, the proprietor, at five and twenty pounds a year; and this rent is paid from the feathers of the ſea-fowls, from the ſolan geeſe, and from the ſkins of the rabbits. It has on it a ruinous caſtle, built by the direction of Philip II. of Spain, about the time when he had hopes to add the Britiſh iſlands to the dominions of Spain.

WE continued our journey towards Girvan, ſometimes over the projecting angles of hills, and ſometimes along ſtripes of level ground intervening between the baſes of the hills, and the ſea-ſhore. Thoſe ſtripes of level ground commonly diſplayed a black rich ſoil, ſeemingly of great fertility. Abundance of ſea-weeds lay on the ſhore, which might form a moſt fertilizing manure.—Before the dark-

neſs of night had altogether veiled the proſpect, we obſerved, at ſome diſtance, north-eaſt from the highway, and on the ſide of a hill,—the ruins of *Carleton*-caſtle, the property of Sir Andrew Cathcart. Nearer Girvan, the hills recede from the ſhore: the plain ſpreads beautifully out: and although it appears not to have received any great ſhare of ornamental cultivation; yet it ſeems to be induſtriouſly enough wrought for the common purpoſes of agriculture. The ſmall but neat houſe of *Ardmillan* ſtands near the highway, at two or three miles diſtance ſouth-weſt from Girvan. It was dark ere we reached this village; and in the darkneſs, we wandered off from the highway, for a mile or two along the ſhore. Suſpicious that we had gone aſtray, we turned acroſs the fields, towards the light of a farm-houſe. The kindneſs of the family ſoon conducted us back to the highway.

Girvan—to Kirk-Oswald.

GIRVAN is a ſmall village, a burgh of barony, ſituate near the mouth of the *water of Girvan*. I have been told that it is of great antiquity. The houſes are huts more miſerable than thoſe of Ballantray. They are ſo low as to ſeem, at the ſouth end of the village, rather caves dug in the earth, than houſes built

built upon it. On the north-weſt ſide, and cloſe upon the banks of the river, are, indeed, ſome more decent and commodious houſes. The highway paſſing the village, is raiſed above the doors of many of the cottages of which it conſiſts. I ſhould ſuppoſe theſe cottages to have been built before this highway was improved to its preſent condition; and the highway to have been raiſed above their doors by the accumulation of freſh ſtrata of earth in the ſucceſſive reparations which it muſt have undergone.

GIRVAN is, I think, inhabited chiefly by weavers. If I am not miſinformed, ſome woollen ſtuffs have been long manufactured here. I learned, upon enquiry, that the manufacture of cotton-ſtuffs had lately begun to be tried by theſe weavers. All parts of Scotland ſeem to have caught the enthuſiaſm for the cotton-manufacture. But, I ſhould rather wiſh the weavers of Girvan to ſtick to their woollens. As ſo extenſive a tract of the adjacent country, is, by its nature, excluſively appropriated to the purpoſes of ſheep-walks; wool is one of the natural commodities produced here in the greateſt abundance. This wool it were better to continue to work up, before exporting it, than to export it raw.

BEANS are raiſed in large quantities, in the neighbourhood of Girvan. And indeed agriculture ſeems

to be here a favourite branch of induſtry. Abundance of lime-ſtone is to be procured at no great diſtance; and ſea-ware may be brought from the ſhore. The ordinary round of crops—is—two crops of oats,—then barley,—then beans or peas.

SALMONS are caught in the river of Girvan, as in the Stinchar; and not only in the river, but commonly within the ſea-mark. Haddocks, whitings, ſkate, and cod are caught by fiſhermen on the coaſt.

THE inn at which we were directed to ſtop, in Girvan, was a moſt miſerable one. We could not obtain accommodation for the night. Hardly could we procure refreſhments for ourſelves and our horſes. Some whiſky was brought us which taſted ſtrongly of turpentine: and ſome peaſe-*bannock* too tough to be eaten. Yet, the people of the houſe were ſufficiently civil and attentive, and ſeemed willing enough to entertain us with their beſt. Dark as it was, and we ignorant of the road; we were obliged again to mount our horſes, and to continue our journey towards Kirk-Oſwald. As we rode out of town, we were met by a ſoldier who, with great kindneſs, directed us on our way. When I enquired whether many ſoldiers were in the town, he anſwered briſkly, "Serjeant Copland, with twelve privates,

privates, ſtationed here, to intercept ſmugglers." I conjectured that he might be the Serjeant himſelf, with whom I had the honour of converſing. The beſt part of the town lies upon the river. As I croſſed it by the bridge, I thought, I could diſtinguiſh, through the darkneſs, ſome good houſes, on its northern bank.

At no great diſtance north-weſt from *Girvan* ſtand the remains of the ancient caſtle of *Turnbury*. This caſtle is, by ſome ſuppoſed to have been built nearly on the ſituation of the ancient town of *Rerigonium* or *Berigonium*, mentioned by Ptolemy, the Geographer,—as a town of the ancient inhabitants whom the Romans found in theſe parts. I am inclined to believe, that this town muſt have ſtood ſomewhere, near the mouth either of the Girvan, or of Stinchar. But between the two rivers, I ſhall not preſume to decide.

Be this as it may, of the caſtle of Turnbury, little more than the lower vaults and cellars now remains. At what period in the hiſtory of Carrick it might be erected, I am not Antiquarian enough to have aſcertained. It was one of the caſtles of the old Gaelic Lords of Galloway. When, upon the diviſion of the dominions of the independent princes of Galloway, Carrick fell to one branch

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of the princely line of Galloway---Galloway to the other: Turnbury-caſtle ſeems to have become the principal ſeat of the Earls of Carrick. I ſhould ſuppoſe Ard-Stinchar to have been another of their caſtles. Balloch-caſtle, within the lake of the Doon, was certainly a caſtle belonging to thoſe ancient Earls. The remains of all theſe caſtles are fully adequate to the ideas of rude magnificence which the records of the manners of the feudal ages lead us to conceive. They had ſtately halls and battlements. Numerous trains of knights and ſquires might be received in them. The feaſt, the dance, the ſong, the tournament, the minſtrel's tale might amuſe the lords and ladies by whom they were inhabited.

THE line of the ancient lords of Carrick, like the collateral line of the lords of Galloway, ended in an heireſs. She was the only child of Duncan, the laſt of the ancient Earls of Carrick. Her father left her young and unmarried. She continued to live ſingle among her vaſſals and dependents, but in the wardſhip of the Scottiſh King;——till, in hunting, ſhe happened to meet young Robert Bruce, ſon to the Lord of Annandale. She was charmed, at firſt ſight, with the figure, the air, and manners of the young nobleman. She fondly invited him to her own caſtle of Turnbury. Ere he had ſpent many days here, a marriage was conſummated between them,

them. The King's conſent was afterwards neceſſarily obtained.

Robert Bruce, King of Scotland, was deſcended from this marriage. The Bruces were originally from Normandy. They obtained poſſeſſions in Yorkſhire. They became afterwards Lords of Annandale. Then Earls of Carrick. Then Kings of Scotland. In the wars with the Engliſh, concerning the ſucceſſion to the Scottiſh throne, Turnbury was occupied by one of the Piercys of Northumberland. He was forced by Bruce, to retire to *Ayr*. I ſuppoſe this caſtle and the domains belonging to it, to have been afterwards granted to the Kennedies. I am not ſure whether it be not now within the poſſeſſions of *Hamilton of Bargeny*.

Camden conjectures, from the ſimilarity of the names, that the ancient *Rerigonium*, or rather *Berigonium*, as the other editions of Ptolemy have it,---- muſt have been the ſame as the modern *Bargeny*. But, Etymology is a very uncertain guide in topographical reſearches. However, the grounds round Girvan are the property of Mr Hamilton of Bargeny. They have been improved by his care. The farmers on the eſtate of Bargeny owe much to the wiſdom and the kindneſs of their landlord.

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The husbandmen have been more easily persuaded to improvements, than the shepherds.

The Kennedies and the Hamiltons are among the most considerable families on the confine between *Carrick* and *Kyle*. The Kennedies are a very ancient family, originally, I believe, of Irish descent. In the reigns of the earlier monarchs of the house of *Stewart*, they appear to have been lords of almost all Carrick, and of the more northern parts of Galloway. They were humbled and depressed by their neighbours, the Boyds of Kyle, at the period of the extraordinary but short-lived grandeur of that family. They were first Lords Kennedy, and afterwards Earls of Cassilis. Sir Hugh Kennedy of *Ard-Stinchar*, of this family, was one of the bravest warriours, Scotland has produced.---*Kennedy*, the poet, whose *flyting* with William Dunbar, is preserved in *Bannatyne's* Collection, was of the Kennedies of Carrick. That fine old Scottish song intituled the "*Earl of Cassilis' Lady*," has this neighbourhood for its scene; and the principal persons whose adventures it celebrates, are of the ancestors of the family of Cassilis.—The late Earl of Cassilis lived much, during the latter years of his life at *Culzean*, in this neighbourhood. He was beloved and esteemed by his tenants and neighbours.———

Through

THROUGH all theſe parts are many handſome, modern houſes, the ſeats of men of family and fortune; and many remains of old caſtles and palaces which prove Ayr-ſhire to have been anciently no leſs conſiderable than it is at preſent, among the provinces of Scotland. The upper banks of the Stinchar, the banks of the Girvan, but ſtill more thoſe of the Doon, are adorned with much beautiful ſcenery, and with many gentlemen's ſeats. The landholders in theſe parts have long applied with wonderful aſſiduity, to adorn and enrich their lands with all the improvements of huſbandry. None more ſucceſsfully than Sir *Adam Ferguſon of Kilkerran;* who is univerſally eſteemed as a virtuous and enlightened patriot, and an amiable man.

THE mountains which occupy the greater part of Carrick, eſpecially on the north-weſt, ſeem to be merely a continuation of that great ridge which extends from the confines of England, through Selkirk-ſhire, Peebles-ſhire, Lanerk-ſhire, Dumfries-ſhire, and meets the Weſtern Sea, on the boundary between Carrick and Kyle. Galloway, in its ancient extent, ſeems to have had this ridge for its landward barrier, on all quarters on which it was not bounded by the ſea. From this ridge ſpring almoſt all the conſiderable rivers in the ſouth of Scot-

land: the Tweed, the Eſk, the Annan, the Nith, the Urr, the Ken, the Dee, the Fleet, the Cree, the Blaidenoch, the Stinchar, the Girvan, the Doon, the Ayr. Several of theſe laſt rivers riſe juſt upon the boundary between Galloway and Carrick; ſo that theſe two diſtricts ſeem to meet nearly at the height of the country.

RIDING by night between Girvan and *Kirk-Oſwald*, I loſt the ſight of a moſt agreeable tract of country; that which here forms the line of ſeparation between ornamented cultivation,—and native wildneſs almoſt wholly unſoftened and unſubdued. I ſhould have been pleaſed to ſee the one melt inſenſibly into the other, like the changing colours in a fine painting, the mingled light and darkneſs of twilight, or the roſe and the lily on the cheek of virgin-beauty.

KIRK-OSWALD,—and to AYR.

IT was late in the evening, when we reached Kirk-Oſwald. We were not a little pleaſed to find a clean and commodious inn, good ſtables, and a careful, attentive landlord. The comfort and the refreſhments which we here obtained, were doubly agreeable, after ſo long a ride, along a wild and difficult road,

road, in a ſeaſon not the moſt favourable for travelling,—and by night. Labour and reſt, eaſe and difficulty, danger and ſecurity muſt be intermingled, to give human life its moſt exquiſite enjoyments.

After ſupper, I invited the landlord of the inn Mr *M'R*——, to ſpend a few minutes with us, and drink two or three glaſſes of rum-punch. He was a farmer and cattle-dealer, as well as an innkeeper. In his manners, I found him wonderfully ſmooth and plauſible. He had been often in Ireland, and had viſited various diſtant parts of Scotland. By degrees, I engaged him in converſation, and ſuggeſted enquires concerning the circumſtances of the country. He was ready with anſwers to every queſtion which I could put. But, I ſoon diſcovered that his care was rather to anſwer, than to inform. He repreſented Kirk-Oſwald as lying within Galloway; Galloway as comprehending almoſt all the South of Scotland, and as extending to the border of England; its inhabitants as numerous, wiſe, beautiful, and brave above every other people; its cattle as a breed peculiar to itſelf, and excellent above all others; its horſes as more valuable than the famed horſes of Arabia; its ſheep as a race for mutton and for wool, more precious than the goats of *Angora*, or the ſheep of *Thibet*; its dogs as fleet-

er far than the roe, and more ſagacious than the elephant; its ſwine, as fat as porpoiſes, delicate as ortolans, and learned all, as the celebrated *Pig of Knowledge*. Its mountains were, by his account, richer in mineral treaſures, than the mountains of Peru. On its heaths and wilds grew abundance of plants, poſſeſſing virtues to cure every diſeaſe. Galloway, he would willingly have perſuaded us, was anciently the ſeat of empire, and the capital diſtrict of Britain. Its ancient inhabitants, under the old, independent lords, were not a rude and ſimple race, but poliſhed, enlightened, great and happy far above the preſent race of men. He ſeemed uncertain whether Galloway might not have been the paradiſe of our firſt parents, but rather inclined to think, that it had been ſo. ——

I WAS expecting,—with *Marlow* of old *Hardcaſtle*, in the play,—that he would next come home, upon himſelf, and tell us, how that "his uncle was a Colonel, and his mother a Juſtice of the Peace;" ——when he took up the theme of Ayr-ſhire, and with ſuch an air and manner, as he ſeemed to threaten, that what he had ſaid of Galloway was only an humble prelude to the mighty things which he had to tell of Ayr-ſhire. But, the bowl was, by this time exhauſted; and not even the hopes of the praiſes of Ayr-ſhire could encourage us to repleniſh it,

it. He paufed, therefore, and with feeming reluctance, wifhed us good-night; appearing to retire in the full perfuafion, that we cordially believed every fyllable he had faid. I know not how he had acquired his fkill in *romancing*: but he certainly could fcarce have excelled more in this way, although he had, every week fince his childhood, and every day in the week, ftudied *Lithgow's Travels*, and the *Arabian Night's Entertainments*.

On the morning, we continued our journey to *Ayr*. We found that we had left the fea-fhore, and travelled acrofs the country from Girvan to Kirk-Ofwald. We faw around us, a country highly cultivated and populous. Kirk-Ofwald is a village of fome magnitude. The houfes are neat and apparently commodious, built chiefly of fandftone, and covered with flate. The circumjacent fields are inclofed with well-built walls, and often fubdivided with thriving hedges. The corn was cut down, but ftood ftill in the fields. Numerous roads appeared running through the country in all directions. They were thronged with carts, with riders, and with foot-paffengers. It was a market or fair day: And numbers of the peafantry, males and females, were haftening, in their beft clothes, to the town.

STILL as we advanced, a more pleaſing proſpect opened before us. Abundance of wood in every variety of arrangement regular or irregular, appeared over the face of the country. Even the farm-houſes and the grounds about them, exhibited a degree of taſte and of elegant ornament ſuch as might grace many a gentleman's ſeat, in other parts of the country. The lofty ſteeple of *Maybole*, the ruinous abbey of *Croſs-Ragwell*, and the equally ruinous caſtle of *Balterſan* ſoon appeared within ſight.

THE abbey of *Croſs-Ragwell* is an ancient, and was a very opulent foundation. It is ſituate on a a broad ridge of ground, which riſes conſiderably above the level of the ſea, but in a part on that ridge, which ſinks under the level of the immediate environs. The ground is marſhy about it. The quadrangle of which the buildings of this abbey, have conſiſted, is of conſiderable extent. The walls have in many places crumbled down. It is almoſt wholly unroofed. It ſtill preſents however, a ſtately front towards the highway paſſing, at ſome ſhort diſtance, on the Weſt-ſide. The famous George Buchanan obtained a penſion out of the yearly rents of this abbey; from which circumſtance he was accuſtomed to denominate himſelf penſioner of *Croſs-Ragwell*. I believe, that, on the diſſolution of the religious

gious houſes in Scotland, a great part of the revenues of this monaſtery came into the poſſeſſion of the family of *Caſſilis*. The houſe of *Balterſan*, ſtanding near, I ſhould ſuppoſe to have been a palace for the abbots of *Croſs-Ragwell*. I think, the tradition of the country repreſents it as ſuch.

SURVEYING the ruins of this religious houſe, I was led into various reflections on the influence of religion on ſocial life, and the fate of the miniſters of religion, at different periods in the progreſs of ſocicty. Religion no ſooner takes a body and form in rude ſociety, than its miniſters become men of conſequence. The doubts, the wiſhes, the hopes, the fears of the human heart, are all ſo many ready engines with which they may work their purpoſes. They have uſually the power to give to ſavage life, ſomething of the order of civility. If the form of religion or ſuperſtition which they profeſs, have ariſen among ſavages; it will ever retain in its character, ſomewhat of their barbariſm and ferocity. If it have ariſen among a poliſhed, enlightened people; ſomething of barbariſm, and of the abſurdity of ignorance may indeed be ſuperinduced upon it; but its leading features will ever be marked with benignity and beneficence. In either caſe, the clergy, ſo long as they are the beſt inſtructed order in the ſociety, will neceſſarily have great influence, and

will

will acquire a large ſhare of the wealth and honours of the ſtate. *Druidiſm*, and the ſuperſtition of the followers of *Mahomet*, ſeem to have arreſted civilization and refinement in their progreſs. *Chriſtianity*, the offſpring of knowledge, of civilization, of philoſophy, was indeed degraded in its character, and debaſed in its ſpirit, in the dark ages of Europe: But, it prevented barbariſm and ignorance from ſettling over Europe, in all their darkneſs and gloom. In both theſe inſtances, the Clergy have acquired great wealth and great conſideration in civil life. In both inſtances, their influence has been, in the whole friendly to the dignity and the happineſs of mankind. But in the Chriſtian Eſtabliſhment it has been much more ſo, than under any other.

When we review the hiſtory, or ſurvey the monuments of the dark ages of Europe, we are apt to exclaim againſt the Romiſh Clergy, as having debaſed and corrupted the religion of Jeſus for the purpoſes of worldly policy and of ſenſual gratification. Was it for the Clergy, we are apt to ſay, to lord it over kings; to appropriate to themſelves the *fat of the land*; to build ſtately palaces, while the people of their flocks inhabited huts inexpreſſibly wretched; to profeſs poverty and accumulate treaſures; to profeſs abſtinence, yet ſolace themſelves with the moſt generous wines and the moſt beautiful women?

men? Was it for them to draw ambitiouſly all power into their own hands,—and to ſtudy nothing but the invention of new engines from time to time, by which they might depreſs and pillage the people? —The Clergy of the Church of Rome, if they engroſſed an undue ſhare of property in the dark ages of modern Europe, if they enjoyed a greater ſhare of the luxuries and conveniencies of life than the laity,—were however well intitled to theſe advantages. They not only preached religion, but propagated the arts of life. The gardening, the agriculture, the architecture of our forefathers originated with the Clergy. The forms of law, and the decencies of public aſſemblies were regulated by them. Their immunities and privileges and opulence were liberally ſhared with the laity who reſorted to their protection and charity. The hierarchy of Rome formed, as it were, an empire within the empires and kingdoms through which its clergy were eſtabliſhed: and that empire was an eſtabliſhment of refinement and knowledge, in the midſt of barbariſm, ſimplicity and ignorance. When I ſurvey the remains of the noble abbies and cathedrals which were formerly occupied by Roman Catholic Clergy; when I trace the appearance of ſuperior cultivation in the fields which were poſſeſſed by them; when I viſit their orchards, and examine their cellars; I feel no temptation to exclaim againſt

the luxury of the Clergy, or the horrours of Romiſh ſuperſtition: No, I am proud to ſee, that among the antiquities of my country, there are monuments nobler than the circle of rude pillars, the cairn, the barrow, the mote, the turreted caſtle, the barn-like meeting-houſe of our diſſenters.—I allow that the Romiſh Clergy became the groſſeſt of ſenſualiſts: that their opulence and their peculiar inſtitutions had together a tendency deſtructive to their morality: that, with all its ceremonies, all its artifices, and all its abſurdities of doctrine; the Romiſh ſuperſtition is unfit for the religion of a poliſhed people and an enlightened age. But, I muſt at the ſame time maintain, that no form of ſuperſtition was ever better calculated to bring ſavages under the reſtraints of order, or to teach the more improved arts of life.

Soon after viewing the remains of the abbey of *Croſs-Ragwell*, we paſſed cloſe to the town of *May* or *Minni-bole*. It is a place of conſiderable antiquity; is finely ſituate on riſing ground; has in it a number of good houſes; and may contain a good many hundreds of inhabitants. The woollen manufacture has been long proſecuted in this country. *Plaiding* and coarſe flannels are the ſtuffs chiefly wrought. The wool and yarn come from the upper parts of Galloway, and from the ſouthern diſtrict of Carrick. The ſtuffs manufactured, are ſold through the adjacent

jacent country, and ſome part of them, I believe, exported into Ireland. Maybole has likewiſe a good ſchool, which was once conducted by a very eminent man, a Dr Doig. Dr Macknight, author of the Harmony of the Evangeliſts, and of other Learned and valuable works in Theology, was, I think, once miniſter here.

THE morning was fair; and we had no unpleaſant journey to Ayr. The Doon winded weſtward before us. This river has its riſe from Loch Doon on the confines between Galloway and Carrick. Running on in a northern direction, it paſſes the ancient village of *Dalmellington*; near which is one of the moſt beautiful green motes I have ſeen. The environs of the Doon are here for the greater part, either unſuſceptible of cultivation, or uncultivated. As the river advances, it takes a north-weſt direction. The country aſſumes ſtill a fairer and a fairer aſpect before it. Near Ayr, where we now ſaw it, all around is cultivation and ornament.

WE croſſed this river by a decent bridge. At a diſtance, on the ſouth-weſt, and cloſe upon the ſeaſhore, appeared the ancient caſtle of *Greenand*, the hiſtory of which is unknown to me. Before coming fully within ſight of this caſtle, we had paſſed within view of the houſe of Mr *Hutchiſon*, ſeated on a low

riſing ground, and having an agreeable aſpect. This man is eminent through the country for integrity ſingularly ſcrupulous and honourable. He had dealt in cattle; and through unavoidable misfortunes had become unable to diſcharge his debts. His creditors accepted a compoſition. He was enabled to renew his tranſactions with better ſucceſs. He ſoon acquired enough to make him eaſy for life. But, inſtead of uſing this money as his own, and conſidering himſelf as free from all future claims on the part of his creditors, he called them together in Ayr, and with the manly dignity of honeſty, paid every one the whole ſum of his debt, principal and intereſt, that remained due. Honeſty proved in this inſtance, excellent policy. He continued his tranſactions with the general eſteem and favour of the county, and with that ſucceſs with which we rejoice to ſee honeſty always attended.

The corn was ſtill in the fields, over theſe environs; part of it indeed was in neat ſtacks in the barn-yards: the fields all around were green or white: peaſants were buſy, burning whins, leading lime, digging marle, plowing up potatoes, or laying their corn out to dry, if not carrying it in. The low ſtone-dykes of Galloway were no longer to be ſeen. But, the fields were beautifully interſected with living hedges. Here and there, they appeared green

green with ſpringing wheat. Every thing concurred to prove, that we were now within the country of lime and free-ſtone.

Ayr, and its Environs.

AYR is a city of great antiquity, and of conſiderable extent. Its form is an imperfect quadrangle. On the weſt-ſide it extends for the length of a mile and a half, and is bounded by the ſea. On the north, it extends, with the pariſh, for three miles, along the river Ayr. The principal ſtreet is ſpacious, and has on each ſide a line of decent houſes. Many of theſe ſeem to have been anciently ſuch as, —conſidering the ſtate of the arts—would appear much more ſplendid and ſtately, than, although new-built, they would now appear, in compariſon with the circumjacent country. There was a time when Ayr had a great trade; and a time when it was diſtinguiſhed no leſs for its military ſtrength. When the Engliſh over-ran Scotland under Edward I. one of their principal garriſons, intended to command all the adjacent country, was fixed at Ayr. The heroic exploits of William Wallace were begun here. This was a favourite place of reſort to King Robert Bruce. In the progreſs of our national hiſtory, Ayr became a conſiderable trading and ſea-port town.

town. The merchants of Ayr were, about two hundred years ſince, greatly enriched by the importation of French wines. The number of its inhabitants appears to have been, ſeveral hundred years ſince, between two and three thouſand. Theſe numbers were thinned by a plague. Various cauſes aroſe to thwart the proſperity of this city. The riſing trade of Glaſgow muſt have been greatly prejudicial to that of Ayr. The immediate conſequences of the Revolution and of the Union were hurtful to all the trading towns in Scotland. In the year 1745 the population of Ayr, and of that part of its ſuburbs and of the environs which is included within the pariſh, was eſtimated at two thouſand. In the year 1755, they were found to amount nearly to three thouſand. Trade about this period began to revive. The herring fiſhery was eagerly and ſucceſsfully tried. The adjacent country began to be improved. A bank was afterwards eſtabliſhed here. Various other circumſtances have co-operated to increaſe the population of Ayr, by a continual progreſſion, within theſe laſt thirty years. And the population of the town alone is now between three and four thouſand ſouls.

THE DOUGLAS AND HERON BANK, eſtabliſhed at *Ayr*, although ruinous to the proprietors, ſeems to have contributed greatly to promote the proſperity

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of this city, and the improvement of the adjacent country. The projectors of that Bank seem to me to have had three purposes in view; to form an engine by which the elections of Parliamentary Representatives for the West of Scotland, might be subjected to the controul of a certain interest;—to give the country more of the advantage of the money transactions of the landholders;—and to make it easier for the landed gentlemen to obtain what money might be necessary for the improvement of their estates. The spirit of Banking, had but just then found its way into Scotland; and the charm of novelty, with those wild hopes and wishes which are readily enough conceived concerning a mode of trade or industry yet untried,—were naturally excited by the project. The gentlemen who were the leaders in it, had been little accustomed to the minute toils of accountantship, or to the calculations of stock jobbing.

It was therefore a project hastily conceived, and eagerly entered into. The proprietors were obliged to abandon almost every thing to the conduct of the directors: and the directors, I believe, necessarily left too much to the servants of the Company. Many of the subscribers were little able to pay up, in due time, the shares for which they had subscribed. Instead of thinking of the obligations they had

had come under, to anſwer the demands for their ſhares; they thought only of the command of credit and of paper-money which they had thus obtained: Conſidering it as an addition to their fortunes which might enable them to laviſh any expence they ſhould chuſe, on projects of trade or of improvement of lands, or on ſplendour and extravagance of luxury in their ſtyle of living. The directors and ſervants of the Bank, in the mean time, employed their money and credit in various foolish, ill-conducted, and unſucceſsful *ſpeculations*. When the proprietors failed to pay up their ſhares, money was to be borrowed on the moſt diſadvantageous terms, to ſupport the credit of the Bank. The accountants and other ſervants of the Bank thought it neceſſary to live, as if they had already acquired prodigious fortunes. I have heard that, by the knavery of the ſame ſervants, a great part of the notes iſſued by the Bank, were twice debited for once that they were credited in its accounts. In ſhort, by a train of knavery, folly, and miſmanagement, the buſtle, and the extravagant promiſes of this Bank terminated in Bankruptcy. It turned out a bubble, like that of the Miſſiſſippi Company in France, and of the South Sea Company in England.

But, the immenſe debts contracted by the Bank were to be diſcharged. The eſtates of all the partners were liable for them. Many of theſe were already inſolvent. And what could not be diſcharged by them, fell to be paid by the reſt. The affairs of the Company, in conſequence, devolved into the hands of Truſtees and Factors. Many litigations aroſe, in defence againſt claims, and in proſecution for the recovery of debts. Call after call, came upon the unfortunate proprietors. And each ſucceſſive call brought many eſtates to the market, and produced many new failures. A general diſtreſs was ſpread through Ayr-ſhire and Galloway, and even into other parts of Scotland. And a very great part of the lands in thoſe provinces have been by the failure of this Banking Adventure, alienated from the old proprietors.

Yet to the improvement of Ayr-ſhire, at leaſt, —if not of Galloway, the eſtabliſhment and the career of this bank have been friendly. The abundance of wealth which it fallaciouſly ſeemed to pour into the hands of the proprietors; and the ready command of money which it gave—ſet all the gentlemen round the ſeat of the Bank, to the building of new houſes; the formation of gardens and ornamented grounds; the incloſure and the expenſive cultivation of their eſtates. Clumps of wood were ſcatter-

red over the knolls; belts were ſtretched along the edges of the lawns; the water was taught here to ſtagnate into pools, and there to wind with an artificially meandering courſe. The ſtrata of limeſtone were quarried and burnt: the beds of coals were opened up: ſkilful farmers were invited hither from Berwickſhire and from England. *Kyle* and *Cunningham* were opened up by roads in every direction. And the middle and the northern diſtricts of Ayr-ſhire ſoon came to exhibit nothing but one continued ſeries of towns, villages, ornamented farm-houſes, villas, and palaces,—divided by fields upon which taſte had ſuperinduced almoſt every ſuitable ornament;—while enlightened induſtry had called forth all their fertility. When ſome of the old proprietors found it neceſſary to bring their eſtates to ſale, the purchaſers were chiefly men who had acquired vaſt fortunes in India. Theſe entered upon the poſſeſſion of their new eſtates, with abundance of money, to adorn and to improve them: And hence the improvement of the country ſeems to have been rather promoted by the tranſference of property which took place in it.

The progreſs and improvement of the town have been favourably effected by the ſame cauſes which have been ſo beneficial to the circumjacent country. However celebrated by Ptolemy, under the appella-

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tion of *Vidogara*;—However flouriſhing in commerce under the reign of our JAMESES;—However benefited, in the more advantageous direction given to the induſtry of its inhabitants, by the ſoldiers ſettled here by *Cromwell*:—However improved by the acts of Parliament procured in its favour between the periods of the Revolution and the Union:—The city of Ayr may now look back on every former period of its hiſtory, as leſs ſplendid than its preſent condition. Being the principal city in the county of Ayr, it is, by conſequence, the ſeat of the Sheriff's court, and the ſcene of all the political meetings of the gentlemen of the County. *Ayr* races are famous through Scotland. *Ayr* is one of the ſeats of the Court of Juſticiary. It has excellent ſchools to which children are ſent for education from all the ſurrounding country. It conſtitutes only one parochial charge which is ſerved by two miniſters, men beloved by their congregations, and reſpectable among the Clergy of the Church of Scotland; Dr Macgill and Dr Dalrymple. Its manufactures are yet inconſiderable; but I ſhould expect, that they may increaſe with its trade. I had almoſt forgotten to mention, that, beſide its miniſters of the eſtabliſhed church, it has two Moravian preachers, an Epiſcopal Clergyman, and a Methodiſt. It is a favourite ſeat of the officers of the law, proctors, agents, notaries, and meſſengers. It has ſome

annual fairs which are frequented by crowds from Galloway, and from all the more immediately adjacent country. Its trade is to the Baltic, to the Mediterranean, with Ireland, and with places on the coafts. It has a good many of thofe merchants who being half-retailers, half-wholefale-dealers, fupply the country-dealers and fhop-keepers with goods which they themfelves equally retail from their fhops in the town. Here are fome tanneries; and I have underftood, that the cotton-manufacture begins to be tried here. Here are two large, clean, well-furnifhed, and well-kept inns,—by *Dunn* in the old, and by *Simpfon*, in the New Town. Over the river *Doon* running into the Frith, at a fhort diftance fouth from *Ayr*, is a bridge of a fingle arch, ninety feet in length.

THE intercourfe between Ayr and the northern counties of Ireland is fo confiderable, that many of the genteeler families in Ayr are of Iriſh origin. Not a few of them are from Galloway. The country fhop-keepers in the upper parts of Galloway commonly receive their fupplies of goods from Ayr. The inhabitants of Ayr in their character refemble more thofe of Dumfries and Edinburgh, than thofe of Perth or Glafgow. It is the character of the fhewy gentleman, not that of the luxurious although

though *oftenſibly* frugal and ſimple citizen, which predominates here.

But, the ancient borough of Ayr lies entirely on the ſouth ſide of the river Ayr. On the north-ſide is the New Town of Ayr; a burgh, with a conſiderable domain; having within that domain baronial juriſdiction, but without parliamentary repreſentation; and being governed by a magiſtracy, elected by the burgeſſes poſſeſſing *freedoms*. This baronial burgh is of ancient erection, owing its poſſeſſions and privileges to Robert Bruce; who having reſided here while he was ill of a leproſy,---a diſeaſe, in thoſe days common through Europe,---was induced to eſtabliſh a Lazar-houſe here, and to confer conſiderable honours on the New Town of Ayr, and on the village of *Prieſtwick*, lying at two or three miles diſtance, on the way towards *Irvine*. In the New Town of *Ayr* are a good many houſes and inhabitants; and it ſeems increaſing. As I rode through it, I thought, it had much the air of a place in which there was a cheerful and riſing ſpirit of induſtry.

On the banks of the rivers of Kyle, the *Doon*, the *Ayr*, the *Luggar*, the ſcenery is ſo varied and ſo beautiful, and the elegant ſeats are ſo numerous, that it were vain for me to attempt the deſcription

ſcription of the one, or even the bare enumeration of the other. *Achencruive*, the ſeat of Mr *Oſwald*, is a ſpacious and elegant houſe, and the grounds lying immediately around it, have been laid out at a great expence, and in the beſt taſte of Engliſh Gardening.

THE families anciently honourable in Ayr-ſhire, are ſtill conſiderable here, although their honours and fortunes may have been increaſed or impaired by various viciſſitudes in the courſe of time. The Kennedies; the Cunninghams; the Montgomeries; the Campbells; the Dalrymples are ſtill numerous and eminent. The Wallaces are not extinct. The *Boyds* at one period, the moſt conſiderable family not only in this county, but in Scotland, have now few, if any repreſentatives in Ayrſhire. The Stewarts are almoſt equally extinct. The world are well-informed both of the ancient honours of the family of *Boſwell*,---and who is its preſent repreſentative.

AMUSED and inſtructed as I have been by the writings of *Mr Boſwell* of *Auchinleck*, I cannot content myſelf with merely alluding to---,or naming---him, *en paſſant*. The ſprightlineſs, the volatility, and the convivial turn of his genius may have rendered

dered him leſs reſpectable than he might otherwiſe have been: but, he is certainly an agreeable writer, and, by all accounts, a no leſs agreeable companion. He ſeems to have been one of thoſe early geniuſes that bud and bloſſom prematurely. His promiſing parts ſeem to have too early diſtinguiſhed him in company, and among his comrades. The notice thus obtained, naturally encouraged an ambition for the honours of wit, and of ſuperior talents for convivial converſation; with this, too, an emulation to excel, not in deep erudition or obſtruſe ſcience,—of which the praiſe was to be laboriouſly earned, and ſeldom reaped,—but in general literature, which requires little more than lively parts, and that ſuperficial knowledge which the ordinary courſe of liberal education neceſſarily gives to every young man, not abſolutely a dunce. In theſe ſeveral objects of youthful ambition eaſily excelling his cotemporaries, he ſeems to have diſregarded thoſe ſtudies and that buſineſs which required a more plodding application, as unworthy of the care of a man of genius. About the time when he was finiſhing his education, the delicacies of Engliſh literature had juſt begun to be eagerly and generally cultivated in Scotland. The more promiſing of the Scottiſh youth were infected with ſomething of that fondneſs for them, with which the Roman youth once crowded to hear the philo-

ſophical

ſophical lectures of the ambaſſadors of Greece,---ſo as to provoke the reprehenſion of Cato. None ſeems to have felt this enthuſiaſm more warmly than Mr Boſwell. It ſeduced him from the rugged paths of the Law. It made him early an author. It attached him to Dr Samuel Johnſon, with the deference of extravagant admiration, and the humble obſequiouſneſs of a diſciple, ready on all occaſions *jurare in verba magiſtri.*——I think it unfortunate for any man of genius to be thus ſervilely the follower, the imitator, the humble admirer of any other man, however exalted his abilities, however profound in ſcience, however deep his erudition. Servitude ſo abject, the conſcious dignity of genius ought ever to diſdain. Yet, it has been fortunate for the public, that Mr Boſwell valued himſelf on attending Dr Johnſon, with the ſame conſtancy with which the *titling* purſues the *cuckoo*. We have few books more diverting than *Boſwell's* memoirs of his *Tour* with Johnſon to the Hebrides: and ſeldom has a real character been more fully delineated, or with a more diſcriminating pencil---than the character of Johnſon by Boſwell in his "Account of his Life." Such works, while they amuſe, enlarge our knowledge of human nature, greatly more than thoſe more elaborate hiſtories which relate none but general facts, and exhibit men only in groupes, diſtinguiſhed by general characteriſtics. Nor is it ſo injurious

as ſeems to be generally imagined, to the memory of any great man,—to have his character exhibited to thoſe whoſe eyes have been turned upon him, with all the marks of humanity about it. Such information concerning his life and character brings us into intimacy with the man whom we admire: an intimacy which, without diminiſhing our admiration, attaches us to him with the fondneſs of friendſhip. The Memoirs of Xenophon, and the Dialogues of Plato have contributed more to render Socrates a favourite with every ſubſequent age, than if his philoſophy had been made known to us, only in a formal treatiſe of his own compoſition. Should I have liked Cicero half ſo well, if I had known him only as a philoſopher and an orator; without being informed in his Letters, in what manner, the duplicity of the ſtateſman, the bold public ſpirit of the patriot, the vanity of the rhetorician, the timidity of the recluſe ſcholar, honeſt integrity, and unſcrupulous ſelfiſhneſs were mingled together in his character? I am not ſure that the Letters of the Younger Pliny have not procured him greater favour among Claſſical Scholars, —than the Elder Pliny gains by that noble Treaſure of Natural Knowledge which he has bequeathed to us,—or Tacitus by that wonderful combination of profound philoſophic remark, with picturеſque deſcription, which adorns his Annals and his Hiſtory

of the the Roman Empire. Would Pope and Swift yet retain their influence on our manners and literature, if their characters were not, in their own writings and by the care of their cotemporaries, pictured out to us, at full length, in the forms, the attitudes, and the colours of nature, with lights and shades mingling in a just proportion around them?—If there has been a descent from becoming dignity in Mr Boswell's making himself the humble follower of Dr Johnson, and the historian of all his petty habits: our lively countryman has been sufficiently punished by the ridicule which that has drawn upon him. It is impossible not to laugh with *Peter Pindar*, when he enthrones *Sir John Hawkins* in the chair of Justice, and engages *Bozzy* and *Piozzi*, in the contention of Pastoral Dialogue, before the Knight;—or when, in a Heroic Epistle, he congratulates Mr Boswell on his Northern Adventures with Dr Johnson,

KENNEDY whose *flyting* with *Dunbar*, is preserved in Ramsay's *Evergreen*, is not the only Poet that Ayr-shire has produced. The Poems of ROBERT BURNS, a native of the parish of *Mauchlin* in Kyle, are in every person's hands. Burns had received only that education in reading, writing, and arithmetic which the children of the peasantry throughout Scotland, commonly obtain at the parish-schools.

But

But the circumſtances of his early youth had given a tone of lively ſenſibility to his feelings, had ſtrengthened his judgment to ſolid thought, had ſharpened his penetration, to diſcern the lights and ſhades of the human character, and had given a bold, excurſive energy to his imagination. By one accident or another, he had contracted a taſte for reading. Books of Scottiſh and of Engliſh Poetry had fallen into his hands. "He was ſmit with the love Poeſy and of Song." He began to write verſes. And, at firſt, no doubt, would produce verſes more remarkable for fancy and for ſentiment, than for rich poetic phraſe, or for melodious verſification. Practice ſeems to have ſoon given him the powers and the ſkill of a maſter in the uſe of the language and meaſures of poetry. As he came to uſe theſe with greater facility, he would more boldly and more frequently expreſs his fancies and ſentiments in verſe. He ſoon became diſtinguiſhed in his neighbourhood, as a poet. His poetical talents drew upon him the notice of ſome gentlemen of taſte. He was encouraged to publiſh a collection of his Poems. I have witneſſed the paſſionate eagerneſs with which they were received and read by all, from the parſon to the plowman,—from the gentleman and lady in the parlour, to the cinder-wench, kneeling to read them before the kitchen-fire.—By the kindneſs—chiefly of the late, amiable and inge-

nious DR BLACKLOCK, he was invited to Edinburgh, and encouraged to publiſh a ſecond edition of his Poems,——for the firſt had been printed, I think, at *Kilmarnock*. He was eagerly careſſed by all ranks; by the rich and the poor; by the learned and the gay; by young and old; by men and women. Every one was earneſt to have the honour of ſubſcribing for his book. At every table his company was courted. In every party of pleaſure, he was earneſtly ſolicited to make one. On this new ſcene, amidſt theſe flattering, trying circumſtances, ſufficient to turn the head of any young man who was not endowed with a more than ordinary portion of ſound ſenſe and moderation of mind;---BURNS conducted himſelf with wonderful prudence and propriety. He was neither elated to folly by the notice of his ſuperiors; nor awed into ſilleneſs in their preſence. He converſed with decent and manly freedom of ſpeech and of ſentiment; without diſcovering any thing of that ſilly vanity of his poetry which to one in his circumſtances might have been eaſily pardoned. It was ſaid, in my hearing, by one of the greateſt men in this, or perhaps in any age,* that he had never met with a man who diſcovered, in converſation greater energy of mind, than *Burns*. His manners, too, ſoon ſhewed enough of the eaſe of a gentleman, to prove, that, "wherever there is ſtrength of cultivated

* Who, alas! is now no more.

mind,

mind, the exterior poliſh may be eaſily ſuperinduced."

THE Poems which thus brought Mr Burns into faſhion,---for a winter, have all conſiderable merit. Some of them I think the firſt pieces of their kind in ours, or in any language with which I am acquainted. *The Cotter's Saturday Night*, which is really a faithful deſcription from the life, proves, that the manners of our ruſtics can afford ſubjects for paſtoral poetry more elevated and more amiable than thoſe which are exhibited in *Gay's Shepherd's Week*;---that Paſtoral Poetry needs not to employ itſelf upon fictitious manners and modes of life, but may, with higher poetical advantages, paint the humble virtues, the ſimple pleaſures, the inartificial manners of our peaſantry, ſuch as they actually exiſt. The Poem on the ruſtic rites and feſtivity of *Hallowe'en* is finely fanciful, and moſt divertingly comic; but, the ſubject was indeed rich in materials for the man of fancy, and humour. A later compoſition of Mr Burns's, a Tale, intituled *Alloway Kirk*, in which the vulgar ideas concerning witchcraft are happily introduced, has very high merit of the ſame caſt as that of *Hallowe'en*. As a Tale, it wants indeed, the inimitable, arch ſimplicity of the Tales of Fontaine. But, it has beauties of a higher kind. I have been more entertained

by

by it than by any of Prior's. Burns ſeems to have thought, with Boccace and Prior, that ſome ſhare of indelicacy was a neceſſary ingredient in a Tale. Pity that he ſhould have debaſed ſo fine a piece, by any thing, having even the remoteſt relation to obſcenity! Many of his other poems are perhaps ſuperior to theſe in merit; although theſe be my favourites. In all of them we find that originality of ſentiment and of imagery which none can diſplay, but he who looks around, on nature and on life, with the eye of a man of genius.

I KNOW not if the tranſition be very natural or eaſy from poetry to theology. By the differences of theological opinion, ſaid to divide the Divines of Ayrſhire,—I am, however, tempted to try. Many of the moſt remarkable hereſies which have ariſen in the Chriſtian Church have related to the Perſons of the Holy Trinity. Among theſe, I know not that any has been, in different ages of Chriſtianity, more remarkable than *Socinianiſm*, which in its ſeveral modifications, denies or extenuates the Divinity of the Son of God. To ſuperficial thought, this notion ſeems more agreeable to reaſon; and to ſuperficial erudition, more conſonant to what is taught in the Sacred Scriptures, and to the opinions of the firſt Chriſtians,—than the received doctrine. Many pious and well-meaning men have been led to embrace

brace it. In England, it has been zealoufly propagated by the celebrated Dr Prieftley; that Proteus in Literature; that hardy broacher of novelties, and reviver of exploded abfurdities, no lefs in politics and philofophy, than in theology. It has found its way into Scotland. UNITARIAN Congregations have been formed at Montrofe, at Dundee, in Edinburgh. And an Unitarian Miffionary wanders about among us; labouring to make converts, with all the zeal of a Jefuit. It is long fince a Mr Simpfon of Glafgow was depofed from the functions of the miniftry, for teaching doctrines in which the Divinity of the Son of God was extenuated. The late, amiable Dr Leechman of Glafgow was accufed of a predilection for the fame opinion. And, one party of the Clergy in Ayr-fhire and the adjacent counties of Dumbarton and Renfrew feem rather inclined to accufe the other of entertaining Dr Leechman's ideas concerning the Divinity and the vicarious fatisfaction of Chrift; and even of carrying them fo much farther than their maſter, as to differ but little from Dr Prieftley and the Unitarians. This has divided thefe Clergy and the people of the country into parties of *New* and *Old Light*-men. It has produced a contention, which, although it have feldom been profecuted with great acrimony, has, however, been for a while ſtoutly kept up. Such difputes at once ſerve and injure the cauſe of religi-

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on and good morals. They degrade religion in the eyes of its enemies; and they turn to embittered aſperity, the ſpirit of mutual charity in the minds of its profeſſios. But, they at the ſame time excite a mutual emulation in piety and virtue among the contending ſects, which renders both better than they might otherwiſe have been. It is natural to maintain, that "a tree is known by its fruits;" and both the learned and the unlearned in religious ſects are, at all times, willing enough to eke out argument by the proud oſtentation of virtue, or by the bitter reproach of vice. Even, in the contention of Deiſm, or rather Atheiſm againſt all revealed religion, this Emulation of Virtue has been diſplayed. What but this ſpirit could have made the unfeeling, the ſelfiſh, the unprincipled *Voltaire*, an avenger to the *Calas*, a protector to the *Sirvans*, a father to the poor, and the guardian of helpleſs, orphan innocence?---How admirable is the good providence of God, which thus conſtantly educes good from evil, and makes even the folly and the wrath of men to praiſe him!—As to the doctrines of Socinianiſm or Unitarianiſm; it ſeems to me that they muſt have taken their origin from ſuperficial reaſoning and ſuperficial learning. Unitarianiſm eſpecially, appears to involve in its doctrines, abſurdities not leſs groſs, however they may be, at firſt ſight, leſs ſtriking than thoſe of Atheiſm.——

But, let me beware. I may perhaps hear the charge of atheiſm brought againſt myſelf; while I ſtrive to diveſt myſelf of the prejudices equally of the prieſt and of the freethinker; remarking only ſuch facts in the ſtate of religion as ſerve remarkably to illuſtrate the manners and the general character of the age and the country; and endeavouring to ſpeak of all with equal candour and impartiality. It is not impoſſible that ſuch a charge may be brought againſt me: for he who would be candid and impartial to all, ſeldom fails to provoke all. But my heart abhors and diſclaims the guilt, and my judgment the abſurdity of Hereſy, or of Atheiſm. Educated as I have been in the belief of the doctrines of the Holy Scriptures, nearly as they are explained and arranged by the Illuſtrious Calvin; every reſearch, whether philoſophical or theological, which I have had occaſion to make in maturer years, has only ſerved to confirm me in this belief. But, however I may hold faſt the ſound and ſalutary truths of the goſpel; I would not willingly pollute my ſoul with the *odia* or the intereſted artifices of Theologians. While I can diſcern their Divine Forms, the Sanctity of Truth, and the Majeſty of unprejudiced Reaſon, ſhall never be wilfully violated by my hand.

Ayr to Irvine.

ALTOUGH I have thus looked round, from the city of Ayr, as from a ſtation of proſpect, on the adjacent country; yet, at this time, I only ſtopped here ſo long as to breakfaſt in Dunn's. I had ſeveral times before been in this fine county which ſtrangers from the wilds of Galloway, ſometimes denominate the garden of Scotland.

OUR way led through the New Town of Ayr; in which the new houſes, the neat ſaſhed windows, the clean dreſſed women, and the chearful air of manufacturing induſtry—very agreeably engaged our notice. As the road advanced beyond the town, it led through a ſandy plain, along the ſea-ſhore. It is in the beſt condition; and finding it ſo, we very cheerfully paid the toll-dues at the frequent bars erected upon it. This ſandy plain ſpreads for a conſiderable extent both towards the ſhore, and from the road into the inland country. As the eye turns to the north and ſouth-eaſt, the elevation of the country riſes from the ſhore; its cultivation is rich; hardly any but green fences, and walls of ſtone and lime appear; the farm-houſes and even the cottages have a neat aſpect; the villas are numerous and elegant: Trees are ſcattered profuſe-

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ly over the country in every variety of arrangement.

We paſſed near by the houſe of *Orangefield*, which ſhould ſeem by the neglected ſtate of the grounds, not to be conſtantly inhabited by the proprietor. At no great diſtance from *Ayr*, is the ancient village of *Prieſtwick*, which, upon the ſame occaſion as the New Town of Ayr, was honoured by King Robert Bruce with conſiderable privileges, and enriched with a grant of lands.——It is to be remembered, that as Bruce's patrimonial eſtates lay chiefly in Carrick,—he would very naturally have occaſion to reſide, at times, in this vicinity. It was indeed, in St John Baptiſt's Church in Ayr, afterwards converted by Oliver Cromwell into an armoury, that the parliament of Scotland met to confirm Bruce's title to the throne. At a ſubſequent time probably did Bruce retire, under the affliction of the leproſy, either to Prieſtwick or to the New Town of Ayr. On this occaſion were his grants in favour of theſe two places executed. The leproſy had been introduced from the eaſt, whether before, or in conſequence of the Cruſades, I know not. It was then common through Europe.—Paſſing by Prieſtwick on a former occaſion, I remember to have remarked among a pile of ſtones brought from the ſhore for building, [illegible] of indurated clay, all

filled with the *exuviæ* of *muſſels* and other ſhell-fiſh, or exhibiting holes in which theſe had been contained till they had waſted away. The ſpecimen was curious. I would gladly have carried it off with me,—had it been ſmaller.——

THE village of *Mountain*, through which we next paſſed, is an handſome, ſmall manufacturing village. The houſes are diſpoſed upon an orderly plan. The walls are well-built, and round the doors and windows, fronted with poliſhed free-ſtone. The windows are ſaſhed. The roofs neatly covered with thatch. I was much pleaſed with the aſpect of this little place. This village and the adjacent lands are, if I have not been miſinformed, the property of Colonel *Fullarton* of *Roſemount*. And it ſhould ſeem, that he has ſpared no pains or expence to improve the environs, and to make them the ſeat of a numerous, happy, and induſtrious population.—Nearly above this village, riſes a hill, round, green, of no very lofty elevation, and beautifully adorned with wood.

THE fields being now nearly bare of corn, and the weather fair; this was the ſportman's ſeaſon for ſhooting partridges. We met, on our way, ſome gentlemen in a hunting-dreſs, and a lady talking eagerly of horſes and hounds,—who ſeemed to be

juſt

juſt leaving the fields on which they had, for the morning, purſued this amuſement.

THIS whole road from Ayr to Irvine lies on the ſea-coaſt, at no great diſtance from the ſhore. We had within our view, the ſame bay and the ſame coaſts along which we had travelled for the day or two immediately preceding. As the day was fair, we enjoyed an agreeable, and widely extended proſpect. The moſt conſpicuous iſland within the Frith, was *Arran*.

THE iſle of ARRAN, which was, by the Romans termed *Glotta*, lies in the mouth of the Frith of Clyde, which---from the name of this iſle probably ——was, by the ſame people denominated *Glottæ Æſtuarium*. It lies at about eight leagues of diſtance from Ayr, in a north-weſt direction; and about fifteen leagues, equally north-weſt from Loch-Ryan, in Galloway. Its form is, in ſome degree, oval. Its length, from north to ſouth, is about twenty four miles; its greateſt breadth from eaſt to weſt, fourteen. The ſea encroaches, here and there, ſo as to indent its coaſts. On the ſouth-eaſt quarter of the iſle is the beautiful harbour of *Lamlaſh*; a port of circular haven, nine miles in circumference, and covered by the iſlet of Lamlaſh, about three quarters of a mile in length. Five hundred ſhips may conveniently enough

enough lie together, in this haven. The iſlet at its mouth forms a double inlet, and a double outlet; ſo that ſhips may enter or ſail out, with almoſt any wind. Five leagues northward from Lamlaſh, is Loch *Ranſa*; another ſpacious harbour, but inferior in extent and in convenience, to the former. The face of the country, through this iſle, is rugged and mountainous. *Goat-field*, the higheſt mountain in the iſle, lies nearly in the centre. In a clear day, Scotland, England, Ireland, and the Iſle of Man are viſible from its ſummit. The *Cock of Arran*, towards its northern extremity, is a famous ſea-mark. The air of this iſland is cold, but pure. The Springs are earlier, the Summers warmer, the Winters colder, than on the adjacent continent. The weather is extremely variable; guſts of wind are frequent; winter is commonly attended with large falls of rain and ſnow. The iſland has four or five freſh water lakes, with innumerable ſprings, by which it is abundantly watered. Out of one of the lakes, *Loch-Terſa*, iſſues a fine river. The loftier parts of the iſland are either bare rocks, or are covered only by heath or ferns, and are fit only for paſture to ſheep or goats. In the vales, on the borders of the lakes, on the banks of the ſtreams, but eſpecially on the coaſts, is the ground ſuſceptible of cultivation, and in various places, tolerably well cultivated. Bear, oats, peas, potateos, and pot-herbs, with

with ſome ſhare of flax and hemp are the ordinary crops. Much underwood grows through the iſland: and in one place, large pines. Limeſtone, freeſtone, and coal, and various other valuable foſſils are found here in conſiderable abundance. More than a thouſand black-cattle are annually exported from Arran. Here too are ſheep, goats, ſwine, and rabbits, in great plenty. On the hills are wild deer. In the lakes are ſalmons, and other freſh-water fiſh. On the coaſts are caught cod, ling, whitings, and herrings. The caſtle of *Broadwick*, belonging to the Duke of Hamilton, is the moſt conſiderable edifice in this iſland. It muſt have been anciently a ſtrong caſtle, and a ſumptuous palace. Here are alſo various remains of many ancient fortreſſes: and caves remarkable equally for ſize and for ſituation. Here are many monuments referable to the druidical ſuperſtition. From *Mona* or *Angleſey* the Druids are well-known to have retired to *Man*: from *Man*, they might reſort to *Arran*.——Here are various ſtreams fit for moving mill-machinery. Yet, I know not, that the cotton-manufacture has yet been introduced into Arran. The ſea-ware on the ſhores is burnt into kelp: and, no doubt, theſe iſlanders will gradually have motives which may rouſe them to induſtry, and diſpoſe them to avail themſelves of all the natural advantages of their ſituation. People from England have been accuſtomed

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to cut and burn the ferns in the iſland, and to carry away the aſhes. But, the natives begin to ſee that they themſelves may with almoſt equal advantage, burn their ferns, as well as their ſea-ware.

NORTH-EAST from *Arran* lies the iſle of *Bute;* about eighteen miles in length, from north to ſouth, and in breadth—where it is broadeſt—five miles. It is hilly in the general character of its ſurface; and towards *Cowal*, the hills riſe---although not to the elevation of the mountains of *Cowal*. At *Rotheſay* this iſle has a large harbour. It is watered by ſix or eight lakes of freſh water; the largeſt of which, *Loch Fad*, is a mile in length: four have rivers iſſuing from them. The town of Rotheſay contains between two and three thouſand inhabitants, and ſeems to have been anciently—perhaps more populous than at preſent. This is underſtood to have been a ſettlement occupied by the Scots under the Renda, as they advanced from Ireland into Argyle-ſhire. Since the reign of Robert III. the heir apparent of the Scottiſh crown has been the Duke of Rotheſay. The caſtle of Rotheſay is now ruinous, but was inhabited by the family of Bute, till it was burnt during the troubles in the year 1685. Herrings, in their ſeaſon, come in great abundance, on the coaſt of Bute: and the herring-fiſhery is the favourite employment of the young men. All the ambition of a farmer's ſon is firſt to obtain

obtain a ſhare in a herring-buſs, and at length to become ſolely maſter of one. Bute has thus become a nurſery for ſeamen: it furniſhed many, during the American war to the Royal Navy.—Yet, Bute is a ſeat of thriving agriculture. The ſoil is light and ſandy. A conſiderable part of the iſle is incloſed and ſubdivided with ditches and hedges. Barley, oats, turnips, rye-graſs and clover are raiſed in great abundance. The barley is conſumed in the iſland, in the diſtillation of whiſky. Of the oats a conſiderable ſhare is exported. Cattle are alſo a principal article of export with theſe iſlanders. They have abundance of lime. Coal they have hitherto ſought for in vain. The Gaelic was the language of the laſt generation of the inhabitants: Among the preſent, the ordinary dialect of the Lowland Scots is commonly ſpoken.—To the pariſh of Rothеſay alone, belong from twelve to twenty open boats, and from eighty to an hundred decked veſſels, of between fifteen and an hundred tons burthen.—The iſle is divided into the two pariſhes of *Rothеſay* and *Kingarth*. It has ſeveral ſchools for the education of youth. The number of the inhabitants amounts nearly to five thouſand; being nearly ſeventy to the ſquare mile: No contemptible population. Theſe people have been rouſed from that indolence by which they were once prevented from availing themſelves of the natural advantages

of their ſituation: and the induſtry, wealth, and population of the iſland advance, hand in hand. A cuſtom-houſe eſtabliſhed in the town of Rotheſay, in the year 1765: the encouragement given by government to the herring-fiſhery; and the introduction of the cotton manufacture about a dozen years ſince, are among the chief cauſes to which the late increaſe of the population of this iſland has been aſcribed. With the increaſe of wealth and population, the price of proviſions has alſo riſen. The vicinity of Greenock, the market of which is one of the *deareſt* in Scotland has no doubt contributed to raiſe the price of every article in the markets of Bute.——The inhabitants of Bute deſire earneſtly to be relieved from the duty on ſea-borne coal.—Bute was anciently the favourite place of meeting between the Highlanders and the Lowlanders of the Weſt of Scotland. In thoſe days, the manners of our anceſtors were rude, and their ſpirits fierce and diſorderly. Law was imperfect. Civil juriſdiction, weak. The Highlanders and the Lowlanders were mutually diffident of each other. Yet, was mutual intercourſe convenient and neceſſary. They choſe therefore a place for meeting and for traffic, where both parties might have like advantages of ſecurity and of force. The port of Rotheſay became their common emporium. Here are remains of ſeveral fortreſſes which were occupied as places of

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ſtrength and ſecurity by the ancient inhabitants of the iſland: On the weſtern ſide are *Dun Ouil*, and *Dun Allin*. The royal caſtle of Rotheſay already mentioned, ſtands by the town of Rotheſay on the eaſt-ſide, and was once the largeſt caſtle in the Weſtern iſles. Since 1685, it has been unfit for habitation. On the eaſt ſhore ſtands alſo *Mount Stuart*, the ſeat of the Earl of Bute, which gives to his eldeſt ſon, the title of Lord Mount-Stewart. Bute is a county, with Arran, Ailſa, and the iſlets of *Cumbra-more*, *Cumbra-beg*, and *Inch-Marnock*;—ſituate, the two former, eaſt off Bute,—the latter half a league weſt from it. *Kumbra-more* is between eight and nine miles in circumference; fertile and cultivated as Bute; forming a ſeparate pariſh; and peopled with ſome hundreds of inhabitants. *Kumbra-beg*, or Kumbra the leſs, is little more than a mile in circumference, and ſwarms with rabbits---*Inch-Marnock* is ſomewhat larger than *Kumbra-beg*; beautiful and cultivated: it was anciently the ſolitary receſs of a ſmall ſociety of *Culdees*.

SUCH, with its appendages, is the iſle that gave a title to him who had a conſiderable ſhare in directing the early education of our Excellent Sovereign, and who was, for ſome ſhort while, at the Head of the Britiſh Adminiſtration, in the beginning of the preſent reign. Few monarchs have ever done high-

er honour, by the tenor of their life,---to their early education;---than George III. of Britain. And, if in the biography of any great or good man, it be thought injuſtice to conceal the names of the inſtructors and guardians of his youth: the Britiſh Nation cannot rejoice that the beſt of Princes ſits on their Throne, without gratefully remembering Lord Bute, as the Friend and Tutor of his early days. They were not perſonal vices and follies; they were not blunders in adminiſtration, or abuſes of power that inflamed the Engliſh againſt his miniſtry. It was the oppoſition of the great Whig families; the popularity of a Whig miniſtry who were to give place to Lord Bute and his friends, upon the Acceſſion of his Royal Pupil. The benevolent policy, too, of uniting all parties, of annihilating all invidious, national diſtinctions, of making of the whole inhabitants of the Britiſh Empire, but one people, unanimous in loyalty to the Houſe of Hanover, and in attachment to the Britiſh Conſtitution---was ſhocking to the prejudices of many of our ſouthern brethren; who, with a not ungenerous pride, imagined, that in loyalty, in honour, in every illuſtrious public virtue, none could, none ought to vie with themſelves. The termination of a ſucceſsful war in peace, without proſecuting it to the utter ruin of a humbled enemy, was another heinous offence by which Lord Bute diſobliged

diſobliged the Engliſh Nation.---But, in all the fury of oppoſition that was excited againſt him, I know not that his perſonal character was ever ſucceſsfully attacked. The diſloyalty, the poverty, the cunning, the duplicity of Scotchmen in general, were the favourite themes of Churchill and of Wilkes. The conſtancy of Scotchmen, where they have formed an attachment, was held up in an invidious light. The ancient prejudices with which the Engliſh had viewed the Scotch, before the Union of Scotland and England under one Sovereign, were powerfully addreſſed. But, even the piercing, ſoul-ſearching vehemence and acute malignity of *Junius*, reſpected the private character of the Earl of Bute. From his diſcernment, the genius and learning of *Johnſon* obtained that encouragement, which *Cheſterfield* had firſt oſtentatiouſly offered, and then meanly withheld. By his dignified candour were the quackery and frivolity of *Hill* overlooked, and that botanical ſkill which he actually poſſeſſed, munificently patronized. The Murrays, the Wedderburnes, the Homes, the Macphersons, all the Scottiſh names, whether in buſineſs or in literature, which were diſtinguiſhed by his care, are the ornaments of this age, and might well adorn any æra in hiſtory. In his long retirement from public buſineſs, the rancour of political prejudice ceaſed to be directed againſt him. In the cultivation of thoſe

virtues

virtues which adorned his character, and of thofe ſtudies in which he delighted, it ſhould ſeem, that he found an happineſs in retirement which he had unſucceſsfully ſought on the heights of ambition. Happier in this, than Sir Robert Walpole, of whom it is related, that, after he had reluctantly retired from Public Office, a friend, one day entered his library-room at *Houghton*, while the Ex-Miniſter was buſy at the ſhelves: His friend entered unobſerved, and continued ſo, for ſome minutes, till he had ſeen Sir Robert * take down volume after volume, look into each, but without reading, immediately return it into its place: At length, the old man threw himſelf down upon a ſeat, and burſt into tears: His friend then addreſſing him, he lamented, that having ſo long neglected literature, amid the cares of Public Buſineſs, he had now loſt ſo entirely all reliſh for books, that they could afford him no recreation in his liſtleſs ſolitude. But, in the enjoyments of claſſical literature, in the duties of religion, and in the cultivation of his favourite Botany, Lord Bute is ſaid to have ſpent his latter years in calm happineſs. I doubt not that his merits, as a man and a politician, will be more candidly judged of, by thoſe who ſhall review them in the next century.

But, I had almoſt forgotten, that I am only on the highway between Ayr and Irvine, and that the

* Then Lord Oxford.

immediate

immediate vicinity of that highway preſents enough of intereſting objects. Near *Hillhouſe*, a gentleman's ſeat, within ſight or almoſt within ſight of Irvine, we ſaw two lovely women walking in a field adjoining to the highway. The road before Irvine ſoon preſented to our view, a grove of maſts, and awaked all thoſe agreeable thoughts which are connected with the idea of active, and adventurous commerce. Coals, lime, rivers, ſea-ports require nothing but men, awake to the purſuits of luxury and ambition—and nature and mankind will both ſoon appear in the faireſt aſpects they can poſſibly aſſume.——We proceeded, and ſoon ſaw, on the north-weſt edge of the ſame hill on which Hill-houſe is ſeated, the old caſtle of *Dundonald*, making juſt ſuch a figure as one of the higheſt houſes on either ſide of the High Street of Edinburgh would neceſſarily make, if it ſtood alone. Near it, but under the height of the hill, ſtands the ſeat of the Counteſs-Dowager of Eglinton. The grounds lying immediately around, were ſtill beautifully green. Below was a wide plain, ſandy, and uncultivated; indeed the idea of cultivation ſeemed to have been here given up, as hopeleſs. Of all ſoils, indeed, a ſandy ſoil is perhaps the moſt obſtinately barren. But, if ſand be an uſeful manure for clay; why may not clay prove equally a manure for ſand? If this plain were fortified by a dyke towards the ſea; laid with clay,—which is ſufficiently

plentiful

plentiful in Ayr-ſhire,---and ploughed up; it might certainly be brought to bear crops of grain and of uſeful graſſes which would render it much more valuable than it can be, in its preſent ſtate. Along the way-ſide, where it leads through this plain, I obſerved a great variety of pudding-ſtones.

At length, we entered a ſuburb of Irvine, on the ſouth-ſide of the river Irvine. The highway paſſes through it, to the bridge. The inhabitants are weavers employed in the cotton and linen manufactures. The houſes are neat; and all who appeared in the ſtreet, or at the doors and windows, diſcovered that decency and cleanlineſs of dreſs which, wherever they diſtinguiſh the common people, ſhew them to be, in eaſy circumſtances.

Irvine, Kilmarnock, and the Environs.

The Irvine which riſes on the borders of Lanerkſhire, has increaſed to a conſiderable body, when it enters the Frith of Clyde, by the town of Irvine. Like Ayr, Irvine is an ancient burgh, and has long been one of the principal ſea-port towns on the weſtern coaſt of Scotland. In the fifteenth and ſixteenth centuries, its trade appears to have been flouriſhing. But, the *barr* of ſand formed at the mouth of the harbour

harbour, has long rendered it leſs convenient than it otherwiſe might have been, for ſhipping. It has more ſhipping at preſent however, by all appearance, than the port of Ayr. As Ayr ſtands nearly on the boundary between Carrick and Kyle; ſo the river Irvine, on which the town of the ſame name ſtands, is the limit between Kyle and Cunningham.—The extent of the city of Irvine is conſiderable. Many of the buildings have an ancient aſpect: the walls thick and ſtrong: the windows ſmall: the houſes narrow in proportion to their height; and the rooms low. As to trade; one conſiderable branch of the trade conſiſts in the exportation of coals to Ireland: Its inhabitants take a ſhare, too, in the herring-fiſhery in the Frith of Clyde: They have intercourſe with many of the other ſea-ports in Britain and Ireland: They trade to the *Baltic;* and even take a ſhare with the merchants of Glaſgow, in the trade to America; and our Weſt-Indies: I know not, whether they trade to the ports of the Mediterranean. The ſtreets were thronged with carts, and with people walking eagerly about, with an air of buſineſs. It was eaſy to ſee by the dreſs and air of the people, that the ſeafaring part of the inhabitants are the moſt numerous and opulent. They ſeem to give a tone to the manners of the reſt. Irvine abounds not in good inns. The houſe and offices of the inn in which we ſtopped to dine were

not commodious. But, the people were civil, and their charge moderate. Irvine ſeems to partake in thoſe advantages which have, of late, ſo greatly promoted the general proſperity of Ayrſhire. The addition of manufactures to its traffic will, no doubt greatly promote the farther increaſe of this city.

Kilmarnock ſtands at ſome diſtance, inland from from the town of Irvine, and equally upon the river of the ſame name. It is ſuppoſed to derive its own name from a *St Marnock*---perhaps the ſame whoſe name has been alſo impoſed on the little iſle of *Inch-Marnock* before mentioned. In the year 1591, it was erected into a burgh of barony, by a charter granted in favour of Thomas, Lord Boyd. In 1672, a ſecond charter was obtained, and ratified by the Scottiſh Parliament. In 1700, the magiſtrates obtained from the Earl of Kilmarnock, a grant of all the privileges and taxes which they enjoyed, as ſuperior of the burgh; the benefits of which grant, the town has ever ſince poſſeſſed. It is governed by two Bailies, and a Council of ſeventeen burgeſſes. It has increaſed gradually ſince its erection, and eſpecially ſince its emancipation from the power of the noble family in whom the ſuperiority was originally veſted,---till it has at length ariſen to be one of the moſt conſiderable manufacturing towns in the Weſt of Scotland. The number of its preſent inhabitants amounts

amounts nearly to ſix thouſand. Nearly an hundred thouſand pounds worth of goods are annually manufactured in it. Carpets alone bring to Kilmarnock an annual return of near two and twenty thouſand pounds. The ſhoes and boots made here afford almoſt an equal ſum. Duffles, coverlets, blankets, plaidings, ſerges, bonnets, caps and mitts, with ſtockings knit on needles are ſo many articles of woollen manufacture prepared here to a large annual amount. The other articles manufactured in Kilmarnock, are various, and of a great yearly value. The markets of the town are very plentifully ſupplied from the circumjacent country: almoſt every article is cheaper here than in the markets of Glaſgow and Paiſley: and from this neighbourhood all ſorts of proviſions are carried for ſale to thoſe more populous and opulent, manufacturing cities. The butcher-meat expoſed to ſale in the fleſh-market of Kilmarnock, is reckoned ſo excellent, that many families in Glaſgow, at the diſtance of one and twenty miles, ſend hither for their butcher-meat. Among other articles of proviſion, good in quality, and at a reaſonable price, which are to be obtained here, is the beſt cheeſe which Scotland affords, well-known by the name of *Dunlop* cheeſe. The cheeſe made in the pariſh of Dunlop was originally the beſt in Ayr ſhire, and was ſought for, with a preference, at all the markets where it was

offered to ſale. But, the ſucceſs of the cheeſe-makers of Dunlop ſoon tempted the emulation of their neighbours. The name of Dunlop cheeſes came to be transferred to all the cream cheeſes made in Ayrſhire, and equally to cream-cheeſes brought from the adjacent parts of Galloway into Ayrſhire, for ſale. In the markets of Glaſgow and Paiſley, all cheeſe brought from the country lying weſtward from theſe towns is ſold and bought, as Dunlop-cheeſe.

THE *coal* of Ayr-ſhire is one capital ſource of its wealth. In all the diſtricts of this county coal is to be found. The ſtrata are almoſt every where wrought. From the immediate neighbourhood of Kilmarnock about three thouſand and three hundred tons, of a ſpecies called Blind Coal, are annually exported to different places in Ireland; Cork, Dublin, Belfaſt, Drogheda, Lairn, Donaghadee, Sligo. To the Highland iſles too, it is alſo exported for the purpoſes of drying malt and corn, and of burning limeſtone. In Ireland, indeed, the importation of coals is peculiarly neceſſary. The want of this important article is perhaps the greateſt diſadvantage to which that fertile and populous iſland is naturally ſubjected. Not that Ireland is abſolutely without ſtrata of coals; but, ſo few of theſe have yet been diſcovered; and the coal which they afford, is ſo inferior in quality; that the Iriſh find a very great importation neceſ-

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ſary to anſwer their demands. They prefer the Engliſh coal to that of Ayr-ſhire. If they ſhall ever find England and Scotland too much exhauſted to ſupply them with pit-coal, I would adviſe them then to have recourſe to Newfoundland: For in Newfoundland are ſtrata of coal lying for ſome extent cloſe upon the ſhore where it is moſt acceſſible to ſhipping---and ſufficient to ſupply not only the Britiſh iſles, but all Europe, with this valuable article of fuel. All the coal at preſent exported from the neighbourhood of Kilmarnock, is carried by land to the ſea-port of Irvine. A canal has however been propoſed, along which, this and other articles of export, may be conveyed by water, from Kilmarnock. It is highly probable that this project may, ſooner or later, be accompliſhed. Friendly as I am to canals, I ſhould wiſh to ſee Scotland more generally interſected by them, even than thoſe counties in England where they are moſt numerous. I wiſh it were poſſible to unite Ayr and Kirkcudbright by a canal carried between them. If the civilization of Britain ſhall ever again be overwhelmed in barbariſm; our canals will remain monuments of our arts, if not more ſplendid, yet beſpeaking more enlightened ingenuity, than the aqueducts of ancient Rome.

How

How pleaſing is it to wander through a country occupied by a numerous population of civilized, ingenious, induſtrious men! How pleaſing to behold men, at once improve the beauties and the riches of nature,---and at the ſame time exalt their own dignity and felicity! Such is the proſpect which I have hitherto beheld, in the courſe of this excurſion through part of my native country. Setting out from a great town in which ſociety ſeems too much crowded; in which if ſome virtues, and ſome generous energies of the mind be reared as in a hot-bed; many more vices are foſtered with a no leſs extraordinary influence; I naturally expected to find, in the country, a great diverſity of manners; to ſee vice leſs outrageous and diſſolute, and the ordinary virtues more generally cultivated. But, I have already ſeen much more than I had hoped. The ingenuity of my countrymen is much more conſiderable and more happily directed than I had imagined. In their virtues, the gentleneſs of refinement, is more happily blended with the energy of ruder life, than I had, in my inexperience, conceived. The poor are leſs ſavage; and the great leſs frivolous than I had feared. The middle ranks exhibit more diſtinctly the virtues of thoſe above, and of thoſe below them, than the common-place praiſes of the middle ſtate of life had prevailed with me to ſuppoſe that they might.---The poor are happy,

happy, wherever they are ſober and induſtrious. The proprietors of the lands have no longer vaſſals whom they may beat, ſell, and pillage with impunity. The farmer is not depreſſed. The merchant is not deſpiſed. The enjoyments of life are not withheld, either by pride or avarice, from the labouring poor. It is not by mutually cruſhing each other, but by a generous emulation in generous and uſeful arts, that the different ranks maintain, each its peculiar privileges and peculiar diſtinctions. The great have, by the progreſs of our Laws and Conſtitution, been deprived of almoſt all their power to injure their dependents and inferiors; but, their power to do good has by the ſame means been rather enlarged than diminiſhed. In the peaſant, and in the artiſan, where accidental circumſtances have not depraved their hearts and corrupted their manners, I can perceive a force of mind united with a delicacy of ſentiment which I ſhould otherwiſe have thought inconſiſtent, and abſolutely incompatible with their condition in life.---It is pleaſing to obſerve the progreſs of induſtry in theſe counties. Our national character gives to our exertions the energetic vigour of an Engliſhman, with ſomewhat of the patient perſeverance of a Hindoo. Thoſe inventions by which ingenuity has abridged labour have been as frequent and as ſucceſsful among us, as among our brethren of England: and to them, if

I miſtake not, does Great Britain owe the liberal encouragement which we can give our labourers; while we at the ſame time underſell our rivals in almoſt every market. Examining the diſtribution of our taxes, I am pleaſed to ſee, that they are in general ſo impoſed and levied as to diſcourage thoſe branches of traffic, of induſtry, of luxury, which although they may at firſt ſight, ſeem to be lucrative, and to afford high gratification, are, in truth diſadvantageous, and corrupt, inſtead of yielding rational enjoyment. I am happy to ſee that our country is neither oppreſſed by a tyrannical government, nor diſtracted by civil diſorder. The former looks not round with an eye of benevolence on the whole community, nor does it look forward even upon its own future intereſts: Private paſſions and temporary intereſts are all that it ſtrives to accommodate. The latter ſacrifices to the love of power, and to an enthuſiaſm without reaſon, without object, every amiable affection, every honourable paſſion, every virtue and every enjoyment, all that digniſies, and all that adorns civil life.---Tracing the courſe of our rivers, traverſing our plains, climbing our mountains; I rejoice to ſee the fiſherman chearfully and ſucceſsfully buſy in the waters, and to view the ſails of commerce crowd every frith and navigable ſtream;——to ſee the plain crowded with cattle, rich with crops, or buſily occupied and ſubdued by that

that tillage which is to be rewarded with rich crops; to see that the mountain is no longer occupied thinly by deer, or other wild animals, destined to fall by the hand of man, without having previously experienced any thing of his attentive care; —but by creatures, which having been domesticated, if they are at last to die by the hand of man, and to feed his gluttonous rapacity, are first tended, and sheltered, and fed by him with a degree of anxious and tender concern. The deep forest, the boundless waste, the cloud-capped hill are noble, awful objects; But, gloomy is the prospect, chearless the scene, where if nature appears invested in terrific grandeur; man is seen in a state of meanness and of wretchedness. No: Give me the scenes where the dignity of human Genius and of human Art appears almost to rival the great works of Nature: where the city rises on the river; where hamlets are scattered over the plain: where the elegant villa is seen in the open lawn, or in the sweet sequestered vale; where the stately palace crowns the mount which without towering aloft so as to detach itself from the contiguous scenes, yet rises so as to command them. I delight to survey that mixture of labour and enjoyment, of the rich and the poor, of refinement and simplicity, which my country exhibits.

Unfriendly to great Towns: I rejoice to ſee the country eagerly divided by roads and canals, in almoſt every direction. The intercourſe which theſe promote, has a tendency to diffuſe population equally over the country. It virtually brings the inhabitants of different diſtricts and different cities more nearly together. A country ſufficiently opened up by theſe channels for communication, becomes, in fact, one great city. Its inhabitants wherever ſituate enjoy together the conveniencies of a city, with the advantages of a rural life. Perſons living in the country can ſo readily procure every convenience and all intelligence which the town affords, that they find it not neceſſary to repair frequently thither, or to linger there long. Trade or manufacture are not neceſſarily confined to thoſe ſituations in which they have at firſt accidentally fixed: but can eaſily remove to new ſeats, wherever advantages for ſale, or convenience for the proceſſes of labour, or the low price of labour or proviſions may invite. Thus is the increaſe of great towns, and of the vices which ſpring up in them, as in hot-beds, neceſſarily retarded, and the corruption of the morals of the community checked. When, to this conſideration, is added the advantage which a whole country gains by the ſame mean, in point of improvement; I would willingly hope that political œconomy muſt continue to direct its attention daily more and more

to

to objects ſo important, as roads, canals, and poſts. The whole inhabitants of every diſtrict of this county ſeem to be fully ſenſible of their importance. If I have dwelt too long, on theſe ſubjects, and have returned upon them too often; it has been, in conſequence of my being deeply impreſſed with the idea of their utility.

It is pleaſing, that in Scotland, though much has indeed been done, yet much ſtill remains to be done. So far from being exhauſted; the energies whether of Nature or of Human Genius have not been either called forth or exerted nearly to the utmoſt. It may be true that theſe, after they have been cultivated to a certain pitch muſt neceſſarily decline. But, that decline we need not fear; for we are far from having reached the previous perfection. In *Fife-ſhire*, I have ſeen a diſtrict populous, indeed, and flouriſhing, but where the care of its mineral treaſures, and the advantages which its peninſulated ſituation afford to a ſea-faring life ſeem to have not a little retarded the progreſs of enlightened agriculture; and where I ſuſpect, that the fondneſs of the gentlemen for the pleaſures of the chaſe may have rendered them more careleſs than they otherwiſe might have been of the incloſure and the decoration of their grounds. In *Kinroſs-ſhire* I have ſeen a tract which poſſeſſing ſome of the benefits of manu-

facturing induſtry, [illegible]ing ſomething of decent agriculture, and deriving ſome advantages from the rearing and feeding of ſheep and black-cattle; yet exhibits none of theſe modes of the œconomy of induſtry proſecuted with great eagerneſs, upon a large ſcale, or with very extraordinary ſucceſs. In *Perthſhire* I have beheld population in one quarter crowded; induſtry enlightened and active; trade ingenious and adventurous; man rouſed to exert himſelf to the utmoſt, and to call forth all the latent energies of nature. But this was only the fore-ground. In other parts of the ſame county, nature appears in the rudeſt and moſt unimproved wildneſs; population is ſcanty; and man wretched and indolent. In *Argyle-ſhire* I have ſeen the continuation of the wilder parts of Perth-ſhire: In both however, nature although rugged and wild, preſents nothing of wildneſs and ruggedneſs ſufficient to baffle the ingenuity and induſtry of man. In *Dunbarton-ſhire* I again returned to ſcenes of which the natural advantages ſeem to have invited the cares of human art and induſtry; and where trade and manufacture appear to have ſeated themſelves in triumph. In the ſhire of *Lanerk* ſtands the faireſt ſeat which trade and induſtry have yet eſtabliſhed for themſelves in North-Britain. On the confines of the ſame ſhire, I ſaw the ſhepherd in his moſt comfortable condition, in conſequence of his being there peculiarly ſkilful in

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the management of his flocks. In *Dumfries-ſhire* I have ſeen what the advantages of paſturage and agriculture, cultivated with only tolerable care and ſkill, can do, without the aid of manufactures, and enlivened by but a little trade. In *Galloway*, I have ſeen the influence of riſing manufactures, the happy effects of advancing agriculture, the miſerable diſadvantage which a people ſuffer when ſequeſtered at a remote diſtance from the ſcenes of buſy and gainful induſtry, and cut off in a great meaſure from communication with theſe, by the want of roads and canals. In *Ayr-ſhire*, I ſee a better mixture of the Arts and of the various ſpecies of human induſtry than in other counties: Here are ſhepherds and a wide range of ſheep-paſtures; meadows, graſs-fields, and black-cattle fattened for the ſhambles; barley, wheat, and oats in large abundance; foſſils—free-ſtone, lime and coal—affording rich reſources to the induſtry of the inhabitants; good harbours and a thriving trade; manufactures which not only work up the raw produce of the country, but require even an importation of materials. Such is Ayr-ſhire! fortunately, its idlers live more at home, than thoſe of many other counties: More of that income which the proprietors of the *Lands* and of the *Money'd* or other *perſonal Stocks* draw from the labourers by which theſe are turned to uſe, is thus returned into the hands

hands of thoſe very labourers than in many other places. That emulation in improvements and in the decoration of their reſpective domains which ſeems to prevail among the landholders of Ayr-ſhire, has, in its effects been already greatly beneficial to the intereſts of the county in general. It is the moſt generous emulation which can prevail in a peaceful age, among the nobility or gentry of any country. It was that aſſemblage of the advantages of the rude and the cultivated diſtricts which ſtruck me as diſtinguiſhing Ayr-ſhire,—that has inſenſibly led me to look back from the confine between Kyle and Cunningham, upon the other counties which I had immediately before traverſed. I proceed.

From IRVINE *to* KILBARCHAN.

I WAS now in the bailiwick of Cunningham; which is ſaid to have been anciently infeſted by the Danes, and to have received from them its name. The highway by which we continued our journey acroſs the country, led near by a ſeat of Lord Eglinton's towards *Kilwinning*. We croſſed the river Garnock by a commodious bridge. *Kilwinning*, anciently the ſeat of an opulent abbacy, ſtill diſplays various remains of its former ſtate. The walls which ſurrounded the orchard of the Monks, are

ſtill

ſtill partly ſtanding. Various ſtately fruit-trees yet appear within. Some parts of the buildings which thoſe Clergy inhabited, are alſo ſtanding. The ſituation was well-choſen. I think it more like to thoſe ſituations which the moderns prefer to build on, than the ſites of moſt of the other old abbies which I have ſeen. A conſiderable village has riſen near. Several large cotton-works have been lately erected beſide it. The erection of theſe works has been attended with a proportionate enlargement of the village. Its inhabitants are almoſt wholly weavers and cotton-ſpinners. Such is the change of manners which the progreſs of ſociety has here produced. The ancient ſeat of monkiſh indolence is now the flouriſhing ſcene of manufacturing induſtry. The ornaments which it derives from its preſent occupiers, although leſs dignified and auguſt, perhaps,—are however much more pleaſing and intereſting, than thoſe more pompous ones which might be ſuperinduced by its ancient poſſeſſors.

THE days are paſt, in which the wealth and power of Scotland were chiefly poſſeſſed by the Clergy. Happier days have ſucceeded; although they might not immediately ſucceed. The lands have paſſed into the hands of men who have many more motives ariſing from their multiplied connections in ſociety, to improve them. The labourer, the farmer,

mer, the artifan, the manufacturer, the merchant, the lawyer, the phyfician have now obtained a very large fhare of that property which onec engroffed almoft exclufively by the military and the clerical orders. Yet, I know not if thefe latter orders have been, in all inftances, lofers. The half is fometimes more than the whole. I know fome landholders who having fold large portions of their eftates, have however, gained fo fucceefsfully, by the progrefs of improvements in the country, that their rentals are now higher than ever. Something fimilar feems to have happened in the cafe of fome of thofe whom I have been here fpeaking.—It muft be acknowledged, that, in the dark ages of Europe, the Clergy both feeular and regular, of the Romifh Church, were the leaders in all improvements. Not only did they keep alive the half-extinguifhed fires of Science and Literature: But, the arts of life were introduced by them. Whatever, our anceftors had of agriculture, of architecture, and of all thofe arts which provide the ordinary accommodations of life, —was taught and practifed chiefly by the clergy. That rude, awkward, liftlefs induftry which Europe had, before the emancipation of the burghs, was practifed folely, or at leaft in its perfection, about the abbies and monafteries; under the direction or by the hands of the monks. But the burghs were emancipated, and induftry and order began

to prevail among the laity. The monaſtic clergy became more and more uſeleſs. They ſank into indolence, and into all the vices connected with luxury deſtitute of refinement. They became now burthens upon thoſe diſtricts where they were eſtabliſhed. Yet ſtill it muſt be granted, that, as they were fixed in their monaſteries, they neceſſarily returned through the country in charity and in wages, a great part of that wealth which they drew from it. But after all, the diſſolution of the monaſtic houſes has been eventually, highly beneficial to all thoſe countries in which it has been accompliſhed.—I am not ſo ſure, that the ſpoiling of all the ſecular clergy has been equally good policy. I think it of advantage to a country—and eſpecially to a country in which the trading and manufacturing orders are numerous and powerful,—that there ſhould be Eſtates in it, the ſucceſſion to which may be Elective in ſome meaſure,—And to the acquiſition of which, decency of morals, a conſiderable ſhare of knowledge, and an attachment to preſent eſtabliſhments muſt be neceſſary qualifications. In an age of diſſipation, like the preſent, I think it of the higheſt conſequence for the general welfare of the community, that there be at leaſt a few men of fortune, whoſe decency of manners may be always ſure.

We here turned away from the coaſt, and croſſed over through the interior country by a road leading from Kilwinning, to the north-eaſt. As we advanced, the country, although apparently not leſs ſuſceptible of ornament and cultivation, yet ſeemed to be leſs carefully decorated and cultivated, than the tract lying between Ayr and Irvine, and the immediate environs of the latter of theſe cities. What ornaments the country here has, ſeem to ariſe rather from the improvements of induſtry, than from the decorating care of taſte. Around ſome houſes near the highway, I obſerved trees which by their ſize and antique aſpect, ſeemed to beſpeak the antiquity of the ſeats which they had been planted to ſhelter or adorn. Eaſt or nearly Eaſt from the way by which we travelled, appeared the ſeat of *Blair* of Blair; one of the moſt ancient families in Ayrſhire: There was long a conteſt for precedency between the repreſentatives of this family, and of the family of Blair of Balthayock. King James VI, decided, that, he of the repreſentatives of theſe two families who happened to be the oldeſt, ſhould in future take the precedency of the other.

We had not proceeded many miles beyond Kilwinning, when we entered the village of Dalry, finely ſituate on a riſing ground. The houſes are neat. The villagers, induſtrious and decent in their

their appearance. Here too, the cotton manufacture is eſtabliſhed. And here, as elſewhere, induſtry makes the people rich and happy. This village does not ſeem to contain more than a few hundred inhabitants. It is juſt of that ſize of which I ſhould wiſh to ſee all the ſeats of manufacture; and in one of thoſe ſituations in which I ſhould think, that manufacturing villages may be moſt agreeably placed. No lofty hills riſe in theſe parts of Cunningham. The ground ſwells here and there gently to a conſiderable elevation; but is all over, eaſily enough acceſſible to the plough. In the vales, where they ſubſide ſufficiently, a ſtream, larger or ſmaller, uſually runs. Sometimes they contain ſmall tracts of moraſs. The roads are numerous and good. A larger proportion of the ground appears to be plowed and ſown for crops of grain, than is left in graſs. The cattle are large and in good condition. Few are reared here; as I ſhould ſuppoſe; for the rearing of cattle would be little profitable where cheeſe, milk, butter, and young calves may be ſo advantageouſly and ſo readily ſold.

Some ſmall diſtance from Dalry, and towards Beith, I was ſtruck with the ſight of a Chineſe Bridge, and of ſome gardens curiouſly ſurrounded with hedges of boxwood. A ſmall cluſter of cottages ſtood near. I was prompted to make ſome en-

quiries concerning both; and learned that they were works of a miller, whom his neighbours, and he himſelf, no doubt, regarded as a man of taſte and curioſity in ſuch matters. The name either of the hamlet, or of the ſtream covered by the Chineſe bridge was *Di-garvan*. Pit-coal is ſtill plentiful through all this country. Eaſt and ſouth-eaſt from the roads by which we travelled, I ſaw a good many gentlemen's ſeats, the names of which I had not opportunity to learn. Amidſt the general cultivation of the country, I could here and there remark neglected ſpots. I was tempted to wiſh that there had been more wood; and was mortified to ſee the diſfiguring dry ſtone-dyke occur ſo often. The ſtones were ſchiſtous or ſhorlaceous, but chiefly ſhorlaceous.

At length, we drew near to *Beith*; a conſiderable, manufacturing village; having as we approached it, paſſed within ſight of the lake of *Kilbirnie*; on the borders of which we could diſcern the ruins of ſome ancient caſtle; and near it, a conſiderable coal-work. As we loſt ſight of the lake of Kilbirnie, and its environs, we came within view of *Loch wchinnoch*. This is a beautiful lake: Its environs are highly cultivated. The extent of the lake has been contracted by a drain; which carrying off a conſiderable quantity of its waters, has thus ſaved for the purpoſes of paſture and tillage, many acres that were before inundated.

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This lake lies immediately below Beith. Beith rifes on the hill-fide. Loch-whinnoch covers a part of the vale below. The village of Loch-whinnoch, inhabited chiefly by weavers, lies beyond the lake. The houfe of Caftle-Sempill, the feat of Mr Macdowall, the repreſentative of the ancient family of the Macdowalls of Garthland in Galloway, ſtands at a very ſmall diſtance eaſt or north-eaſt from the lake. The hills riſe ſoftly above. All the adjacent country is cultivated and occupied by an abundant population. The proſpect is charming—in any ſeaſon.

Beith—to Kilbarchan.

BEITH ſeems to be a place of ſome antiquity. Its ſtreets are in that arrangement, and its better houſes in that faſhion of building which ſeem to have been common in the beginning of the preſent century. It is a large village. The linen-manufacture has long employed the greater number of its inhabitants. The cotton-manufacture is now added to that of linen, here as through the adjacent country. Some conſiderable manufacturers reſide in Beith. The petty dealers find in Paiſley and Glaſgow, a ready market for their yarn or webs. With weavers are neceſſarily in Beith a certain proportion of tradeſmen

tradeſmen practiſing the other mechanic arts. It is a ſeat of ſmugglers who bringing contraband goods from the coaſts of Galloway and Ayrſhire, ſell them here, in the neighbouring villages, and at Kilbarchan, Paiſley, and Glaſgow. A company of ſtrolling players, lately acting at Paiſley, preſented, among other things an Entertainment under the name of the "Smugglers of Beith."—Dr Leechman, lately Principal of the Univerſity of Glaſgow; ſome of whoſe Theological Opinions I have already had occaſion to hint at; and who is known in the Literary World, by his Life of Dr Hutcheſon, the Moral Philoſopher, and by ſome ſermons,—was, in the beginning of his Theological career, miniſter of Beith. The School-houſe of Beith is large; and, I hope, in good hands.

HARDLY ſtopping to take ſome ſlight refreſhment in Beith, we continued our journey through a fine vale, to Kilbarchan. At the bottom of the vale, upon the edge of Mr Macdowall's pleaſure-grounds, and near a bridge which carries the highway over the ſtream falling into Loch-whinnoch, we found ſome cotton-works, with a hamlet which might contain a good many inhabitants.

THE road riſes over a hill, green and of no great height, as it paſſes from this hamlet in the hollow of

of the vale, to Kilbarchan. I know not whence it comes; but, the cultivators of the ground ſeem to be here worſe accommodated with the conveniencies of life, than the artizans, and the labourers of the manufactures. Near Kilbarchan, the dykes dividing the fields, are ſuch as are hardly worthy of Galloway: The houſes are almoſt univerſally covered with thatch: Nor is it unuſual for the farmer's family and his cattle to come in and go out, both at the ſame door, and to lie under the ſame roof; only at different ends of the houſe. Theſe farmers too ſeem to take a pride in obſtinately preſerving the old modes of life,—ſticking to old faſhions and old cuſtoms. I would willingly account for this, if I could. But, the taſk is not eaſy. Is it becauſe the lower claſſes are in theſe places ſo predominant in numbers, that the farmers naturally take the tone of their manners from them, rather than, as they would otherwiſe do, from the higher ranks? Other circumſtances contribute to the ſame effect. Theſe lands are parcelled out for the moſt part among petty farmers whoſe ſtock and income may poſſibly not encourage them to aſpire often to any of the elegancies of life. They diſpoſe of the produce of their farms too in ſmall quantities, juſt as it is raiſed: and thus, not being accuſtomed to *paſs* large ſums of money through their hands, conceive

none

none of thoſe wild ideas of expence which the occaſional poſſeſſion of much money naturally ſuggeſts.

As one approaches the village of Kilbarchan, the eye is delighted with a rich proſpect. The country ſeems all one ſtraggling village, onward as far as the eye can reach. And what is ſtill more agreeable, it ſeems all in motion. The roads are thronged with carts and other carriages. The fields are full of active, buſy animation. Moving columns of ſmoke iſſue from numerous coal-works. And around all the villages,—and the cotton-works—*the nunneries and monaſteries of manufacture*,—all is crowded, alive, and active. Here and there are bleaching greens, which diſplay ſcenes of cheerful induſtry not leſs agreeable or intereſting, than the hay-makers on the meadow, or the reapers on the corn-field. Various gentlemen's houſes appear, within theſe environs: but, on ſo rich, ſo cultivated, ſo populous, ſo buſy a ſcene, theſe can make no very remarkable figure.

Kilbarchan, and to Paiſley.

AT Kilbarchan I experienced the hoſpitality of Mr Maxwell, the Clergyman of the Pariſh; whoſe good ſenſe, liberal ſentiments, and amiable manners are an honour to the clerical profeſſion.

Kilbarchan

KILBARCHAN is a manufacturing village of ſome antiquity. It ſeems to contain between twelve and fifteen hundred inhabitants. It ſtands in a hollow, between two eminences of no conſiderable height. Its inhabitants are almoſt wholly weavers. It has a ſmall bleachfield naturally connected with the manufacture of cloth. Joiners, ſhoemakers, ſmiths, taylors, butchers, and bakers, as neceſſary to provide accommodation for the weavers, are neceſſarily among the inhabitants of this village. But, a ſtill more conſiderable claſs are the keepers of tippling-houſes: and theſe ſeem to be the moſt thriving people in the village. In the morning, at mid-day, in the evening,—whenever there is a penny in the purſe, theſe people eagerly repair to the *dram-ſhop*. With the œconomy of the poor inhabitants of the remote Highlands, or of the wilds of Galloway,—theſe labourers in manufacture might ſoon become rich, and all extenſive manufacturers themſelves. Yet are they commonly poorer, than thoſe cottagers who receive not perhaps more than a tenth part of their annual income.

THEY are not uninformed. Newſpapers and other periodical publications circulate among them, and are eagerly read. But, whatever appears in a printed book or paper, derives the higheſt conſequence in their eyes, from the circumſtance of its being

printed. It is eaſy to propagate any opinion among them: But introduce it; and it will make its way, —juſt as a conflagration ſpreading from buſh to buſh, through a field of dry heath or whins. Or, if it ſhould be difficult to propagate one opinion with ſufficient ſucceſs;—oppoſe it with ſome other: and the two will moſt probably divide the whole village.

Amid their labour, their conviviality, and their attention to public events, theſe good people have not a little of religious zeal. Within the pariſh of Kilbarchan are no fewer than two places of worſhip for Diſſenters; one of which, a meeting-houſe of the Cameronians, ſtands at the diſtance of, I think, two miles, from the village; the other, a Relief-meeting-houſe is within the village, has been lately built, and is indeed very decently fitted. Yet, the laſt Clergyman of the pariſh of Kilbarchan was one of the moſt eminent clergymen in the Church of Scotland: and the preſent is a man generally eſteemed, and every day more and more acceptable among them.

The bleachfield is not extenſive, nor are the apparatus of very ingenious contrivance. I did not find, that they had adopted the uſe of the oxigenated muriatic acid. Lawns, cambrics, and muſlins

are

are the cloths which they manufacture: and I saw, on the bleachfield some pieces of the most beautiful muslin I have ever yet seen.

THERE is an occasional intercourse between Ireland and this neighbourhood. I had fancied, that the linen-manufacture of Ireland was of older origin than that of Scotland; and that whether older or not, it was, however, in all its parts certainly more perfect. But, here I learned that to Ireland, overflowing as it is with population, bleachers and various other operations in the linen-manufacture, —men and women,—had been within these few years invited from Kilbarchan by the offer of higher wages than are given even in these places where the price of labour of all kinds seems excessive.

I KNOW not whence it comes. But, this village of Kilbarchan is not increasing with the increase of population through the neighbouring country. Depending chiefly on the linen-manufacture, it may perhaps have become stationary since that manufacture has ceased to be prosecuted as the staple manufacture of North Britain. For the cotton-manufacture, it possesses no peculiar, local advantages. And the growth of Paisley, rapid as it has been, may have served to dwarf an inferior manufacturing place like Kilbarchan.

But, if the village of Kilbarchan have been little enlarged for theſe laſt twenty or thirty years; population has been rapidly multiplied in the neighbourhood. The village of *Johnſtone*, where at the diſtance of ſixteen or ſeventeen years backward, I remember to have ſeen only two or three houſes, has now riſen to a populous village, little leſs than Kilbarchan: within a mile of which it ſtands. This village has been raiſed partly by the cotton-manufacture, and in part by coal-works, in the neighbourhood, the property of Mr Houſton, which are wrought with the greateſt induſtry and ſucceſs. *Johnſtone* is a neat village. A Relief meeting-houſe is riſing among its buildings. It has one very large, cotton work: and I ſaw others rapidly riſing near. The walls of that large cotton-work which is already of ſome years ſtanding here,—how ſoon after their erection I know not,—had begun to decline to one ſide, and had even fallen conſiderably from the right angle with the ground. While they were thus ſlowly falling, ropes were applied, and they again pulled back to the perpendicular,—without any breaking of the walls, or any derangement of the houſe within: a new wall was then raiſed to ſupport them againſt any future lapſe. I cannot help ſetting down another remarkable fact of a different nature which was here related to me: A hen-egg was found freſh in a dunghill, in which it was certainly

certainly known to have lain for many months, if not for ſome years. In my inattention to matters of this kind, I ſhould have ſuppoſed ſuch a fact impoſſible: But ſome perſons to whom I have mentioned it, ſeemed to think that it might eaſily and naturally enough happen. The ſeat of Mr Napier of Milliken ſtands near to theſe villages of Kilbarchan and Johnſtone. The houſe is large and handſome. In the park are ſome of the ſtateſieſt pines I have ſeen. Above it riſes a hill, of great height indeed, but conſiſting of columnar rocks. At a mile's diſtance on the oppoſite ſide of the vale, with Johnſtone and Kilbarchan between, riſes another columnar hill: and immediately above Kilbarchan, with the houſe of Mr H. Barbour, beautifully ſeated upon it, ſtands a third hill, which appears to be equally formed of an aſſemblage of columnar rocks.

As we continued our journey towards Paiſley, we were ſtill charmed with the aſpect of the country. Far as the eye could reach, nothing appeared, but one ſcene of beautiful cultivation. Seeming at the ſame time, in a manner, all alive, ſo as to remind one of an ant-hill; it pleaſed me little leſs, than I could have expected even in the gayeſt days of ſummer, or opening autumn. By the highway-ſide were green fences or well-built walls. And at

ſhort

ſhort intervals, villages and cluſters of houſes, reſounding with *the buſy hum of men.*

We paſſed near by *Elderſlie*, which is ſaid to have been the family-ſeat of Sir *William Wallace*, that celebrated and diſintereſted champion for the independence of Scotland! We turned not aſide from the highway to viſit the oak which is connected in the traditions of the vulgar with ſome of the adventures of their favourite hero. *Wallace*, were his real hiſtory ſomewhat more hid in the darkneſs of antiquity, would certainly furniſh one of the fitteſt characters that can be contemplated for the hero of an Epic Poem. His deeds have been celebrated in verſe and diſguiſed, as it ſhould ſeem, in fable, by Blind Harry, but with little of that poetical power which conſecrates the rudeſt language, and gives deathleſs renown to every object honoured with its notice. Yet, even the ſtrains of Blind Harry have given Wallace that celebrity which his name enjoys among the vulgar. What a pity, that among ſo many great and noble families, riſing from ſtems illuſtrious, yet leſs than this hero's, there ſhould be no Duke, no Earl, no Lord, who might tell with pride, that the titles and honours of his family began with Sir *William Wallace!*

At length, we drew near to Paiſley. But, its ſuburbs have ſo ſpread themſelves over the environs, that I had fancied, that we had actually entered Paiſley, a conſiderable time before we were, properly ſpeaking, within it.

Paisley, and the Country to Glasgow.

PAISLEY was anciently the ſeat of a monaſtery. The Cathedral pertaining to that abbey ſtill ſtands, and is one of the fineſt remains of Gothic Architecture in Scotland. The vaſſals of the Clergy occupying the Abbey; others who venerated their ſanctity; ſome who in times of turbulence might ſeek their protection; and artiſans who might be needed to provide the accommodations of life for the reſt, would naturally reſort hither, in the days of the monaſterial ſplendour of Paiſley.

Upon the diſſolution of the Religious Orders in Scotland, and the alienation of their poſſeſſions; the Abbey of Paiſley fell into the hands of a ſon of the noble houſe of Hamilton,---and the founder, I think, of the family of Abercorn.

But Paiſley ſeems to have continued a petty village, not more conſiderable, perhaps leſs ſo than *Renfrew*

Renfrew, *Kilſyth*, or *Kirkintilloch*, till the linen manufacture came to be encouraged, and earneſtly proſecuted in theſe parts. It was introduced at Paiſley: and Paiſley ſoon began to increaſe rapidly. No wonder; ſince it is ſeated in the middle of a country where proviſions and fuel have been long plentiful and cheap.

When the proprietors of the ſilk-manufactures of Spittalfields found the price of them immoderately high: and their labourers become ungovernable through that ſloth and diſſipation in which they were encouraged by the greatneſs of their wages, and by ſeeing themſelves ſo neceſſary to their employers:——Thoſe manufacturers, I have formerly mentioned, choſe to retire, many of them, to different ſituations over the kingdom; to *Halifax*, to *Huddersfield*, and to Paiſley.

The eſtabliſhment of the ſilk-manufacture in Paiſley contributed much to its advancement. It was chiefly, I think, ſilk-gauſe that was made here. It afforded large wages to the workmen, and conſiderable profits to the traders. Ribbons were another branch of ſilk manufacture eſtabliſhed here about ſame time, and, I believe, with ſtill better ſucceſs. Linens, lawns, cambricks,—eſpecially lawns, were, however,

however, at that time, the ſtaple manufacture of Paiſley.

At length, the cotton-manufacture began to become an object of general attention through Britain. Like the ſilk-manufacture it found its way to Paiſley. When there was yet but little cotton-yarn ſpun in Scotland; and before the late Sir Richard Arkwright had made thoſe inventions by which the labour of ſpinning cotton-yarn was ſo greatly abridged; muſlins had begun to be manufactured here. But, after the erection of mill-machinery for the ſpinning of cotton-yarn; it was brought in great abundance to the ſeats of weaving in Scotland. And after the expiration of the term for which the property of Arkwright's invention had been by patent ſecured to himſelf, when *cotton-mills* began to be eagerly erected upon almoſt every ſtream to which there was acceſs, and which could furniſh water to drive them; the manufacture of cotton-cloth of every variety of fabric came to be proſecuted at Paiſley with yet increaſing enterpriſe and ſucceſs. With this ſpirit, is it here proſecuted at preſent. Every week, new manufacturers begin buſineſs, new work-houſes are filled up, new *cotton-mills* are erected. Cotton yarn is ſpun in very large quantities through the neighbourhood; but this not being enough, it is imported in very large quan-

ties from England, and from thofe different quarters in Scotland where cotton-yarn is made.—Thus flouriſhing has Paiſley been for a number of years. Its inhabitants are weavers and ſpinners of all different denominations from the manufacturer who deals annually to the extent of many thouſands, to the boy or girl who by ſpinning or weaving ribbons, earns only a very few ſhillings weekly: Joiners and ſmiths, who prepare all the wrought wood and iron neceſſary for the apparatus of manufacture; Maſons and building undertakers, who become daily more numerous, in conſequence of the rapid increaſe of population, and the prevailing taſte for more roomy accommodation in our houſes, than our fathers were content with;—Reedmakers, ſhoemakers, taylors, alehouſekeepers, grocers and petty ſhopkeepers of all claſſes; writers; bankers; exciſemen; and that undeſcribable rabble which compoſe the idle and diſſolute part of the inhabitants of great towns. It is long ſince the population of Paiſley was commonly eſtimated at twelve thouſand ſouls. Now, as I ſhould ſuppoſe, it may be ſafely ſuppoſed to amount to two and twenty, or three and twenty thouſand.

But, manufactures are a fluctuating, uncertain ſource of opulence. Paiſley has experienced many viciſſitudes. At times, the demand has ceaſed for

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its manufactures: the workmen have been disbanded: all has been want and distress among them: fathers of families have been glad to enlist for soldiers that they might no longer hear their children cry for bread which they had not to give. And the mother with her babes has wandered about, begging an handful of meal or a crust of bread. And should any circumstances arise, as it cannot be hoped that there will not, to occasion a temporary stagnation in the disposal of those goods which they at present manufacture. When this shall again happen, distress similar to what they have on former occasions experienced, must again overtake them. --And I humbly apprehend, that the best precautions which can be used to prevent such distresses in a commercial and manufacturing country, are—To watch over the morals of the Labouring Part of the Community;—To form them to regular industry, not to that which works by fits and starts;——To teach them frugality by laying taxes which may amount to a prohibition, on those articles of luxury which they are most liable to abuse;—To encourage them to form Friendly Societies, and to prepare in this manner a public fund against the day of want and distress;—But, above all things, to spread them equally over the country, not heap them together in great towns.—I will even be bold enough to say, without any disposition either to flatter the em-

ployers or insult or injure the workmen, that, it is often of disadvantage to the latter, to receive too high wages; it renders them less regularly industrious, less frugal, less sober-minded.

But, this is not all. Since in a manufacturing country, the labourers in the manufactures form a a very considerable part of the subjects of the state; their welfare ought to be made a first object in its general policy: And on their account means should be employed to prevent the Traders on whom they depend from engaging too deeply in that *blind, gambling speculation* which in its failure is attended with certain ruin, and in its success is—in my estimation ——hardly fair or honourable.

One shocking circumstance which, in spite of every means that can be used to prevent it, results unavoidably from the present management of our manufactures, is, the almost total ruin of the rising generation. Where left unemployed, the children of the Labourers in manufactures are,---as I have observed,---very generally left uneducated; such being almost always the state of the children of the poor about great towns. Where they are even in infancy sent to earn their sustenance by their labour, it is hardly better with them: they are cramped in their growth; their health is wasted by confinement; their morals are corrupted,

corrupted, in consequence of their being crowded so much together; they become independent of parents at an age when they are unfit to judge for themselves: if such children live to the age of thirty or forty, they are commonly the most dissipated, idle, unthinking, improvident, helpless creatures in the world.---But, if their labour cannot be wanted, ---yet why should their strength and life be prematurely consumed for all the little labour of which they are capable? Alas: we do with them as did the boy with his goose that laid him golden eggs: he was in a haste to receive all that she had to lay: he killed his goose: the eggs were yet in embryo: Thus do we, in our haste to render the rising generation useful to the Community, anticipate in infancy all the services of youth, of manhood, of age,---nipping in the bud, the flowers of humanity. When obliged to labour, before the age of twelve or fourteen, children should never be confined for more than four, or at most, six hours in the day: This, if at employment within doors for not more than four days in the week: The other two being set apart for their education. The parents are base, who spending in eating, in drinking, in clothing, those earnings, which they might employ to give their children the enjoyment of that sportive freedom in which the innocence of youth delights,—— to procure them instruction in religion, and in the other

other ordinary branches of education.---ſending the poor creatures prematurely into all the toils and miſeries of life.---Yet, I ſay not, that in great towns, it is better for the children of the poor to be idle than to be employed: If there be a choice between two ſuch evils, I would rather employ them, work them to death, than ſend them wandering about the ſtreets, as blackguard boys and infant-ſtrumpets.

From PAISLEY *to* GLASGOW, *&c.*

FROM Paiſley, we continued our journey to Glaſgow along a crowded highway. On either hand appeared a cultivated country: Villas, gardens, and decorated fields covering its whole face; with hardly a cottage to be ſeen. Thoſe fields were nearly, but not entirely bare of their crops. The larger diviſions of the fields were formed, for the moſt part, by well-built walls of ſtone and lime; the ſubdiviſions, by ditches and hedges.

THIS was in ancient times, too, one of the moſt cultivated diſtricts in Scotland. Were it not, that the monuments of antiquity are commonly deſtroyed and effaced, whenever they happen to be ſeated in ſcenes, where the riſing arts of poſterity are afterwards fixed; there might poſſibly be many ſuch,

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to attract the Traveller's notice in these parts. The famous castle of *Cruickstane* or rather, I believe, *Croestan*, was pointed out to me. This was a favourite seat of *Darnley's* in the period of his courtship of Queen Mary, and of the fairer days of their wedded life. Here did their few months of mutually happy love *fly over* the royal pair, *with wings of down*. A yew-tree which still stands, I think,—— witnessed their fond endearments. Mary, when her love for Darnley intermingled itself in all her thoughts, had the figure of this yew impressed upon her coins.——

Near *Glasgow*, a cotton-work was pointed out to me, the machinery of which is wrought by steam. It is impossible to conjecture how far human ingenuity may yet advance in appropriating the powers of inanimate nature, no less than in taming the ferocity and instructing the stupidity of the inferior animals!

Glasgow being situate on a high-lying plain, does not afford such a comprehensive prospect of its extent from any place in the immediate neighbourhood,—as if it were seated either in a low vale, or on a rising hill. The traveller approaching this city, beholds before him, nothing but spires, buildings, and smoke, spreading out, without any definite limits

mits. Yet, is the prospect grand and interesting. It suggests naturally to the recollection, all that dignity and those honours which man derives from the most splendid exertions of Art, and the happiest social union.

GLASGOW is one of the most ancient towns in Scotland. It owes its rise to a St *Mungo*, or *Kentigern*, who first preached christianity to the rude inhabitants of the neighbourhood, took up his residence here, made this a seat for the celebration of religious worship, and drew about him a few converts, who resorted to receive his instructions, to contemplate his life, and to enjoy the protection of his sanctity. Glasgow became, in consequence, a Bishop's See. Kentigern's seat was filled by a regular series of successors. The piety of kings and of nobles enriched this See with successive endowments. When Christianity was established through Scotland; Scotland united into one monarchy; And the Scottish Church emancipated from its dependence on the See of York; Glasgow then became the second of the two Archbishopricks of Scotland, inferior only to *St Andrews*.

AMID this progress of its Episcopal greatness, the population of Glasgow increased, and its buildings became numerous. The heath-thatched chapel of Kentigern

Kentigern gave place to a noble and ſpacious cathedral. Proviſion was made for a numerous body of Clergy, who might here celebrate the rites of the Romiſh worſhip in all their ſplendour. Many of the vaſſals of the Clergy were aſſembled about them. The inferior clergy with many of the gentry naturally reſorted from the neighbourhood, to the biſhop's court. Artiſans and merchants were invited hither. Glaſgow thus grew to ſome magnitude; and aſſumed no mean rank among the riſing cities of Scotland.

At length, an Univerſity was eſtabliſhed here. The numbers of ſtudents who reſorted hither for inſtruction, increaſed the population, at the ſame time while the buildings of the univerſity enlarged the extent of this city. Not only ſtudents, but parents with their families would naturally come hither for the advantages of the univerſity: while additional merchants and artiſans became neceſſary to furniſh the accommodations of life to the increaſing numbers of the idle and the ſtudious.

Seated in the middle of one of the richeſt diſtricts in Scotland; a diſtrict inhabited, too, by many noble families, and having in it a number of religious houſes: Glaſgow having once attained to ſome dignity as a city, became a common centre,—a

market, and a place of meeting to the inhabitants of the circumjacent country; and as that was ſo populous, derived from this circumſtance, great additional advantages, favourable to its progreſs.

And to theſe advantages, that it was nobly ſituate on a navigable river. The city of Dumbarton ſtands indeed nearer to the mouth of the frith. And it might have been ſuppoſed that Dumbarton, the ancient capital of the Britons of Strath-Clyde, and having ſtill a caſtle, might have, much more readily than Glaſgow, become the firſt mercantile city in the Weſt of Scotland. But, the reſidence of a garriſon could give few advantages,—in compariſon with the reſidence of an arch-biſhop and a legion of clergy. Dumbarton, as a place of military ſtrength, was liable to ſuffer from all the ravages of war, at a time when peace was hardly known in Scotland: While Glaſgow was ſecure under the ſacred protection of religion. Glaſgow had riſen to a ſuperiority above all the towns by which it might poſſibly have been rivalled in trade or manufacture, before trade or manufacture had begun to enrich any of the towns of Scotland. When thoſe began to be cultivated; Glaſgow had population and wealth, and an inland trade which the others wanted; and was at the ſame time little behind them in the poſ-

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ſeſſion of all the other advantages for induſtry and traffic.

When the citizens of Glaſgow began then, to turn their attention to trade; Dumbarton firſt,—and afterwards Greenock and Port-Glaſgow became harbours for their ſhipping, and places of ſtore for their goods. Adding a foreign to an inland trade, they roſe thus gradually to a condition more and more thriving. At the time when the fiſhery of the Scottiſh coaſts, and of the northern ſeas was proſecuted with the greateſt ſucceſs by Scotchmen, Glaſgow had its ſhare in that fiſhery, and derived from it no inconſiderable acceſſion of wealth. Even after that fiſhery was won from us, by the Dutch, and after the decline of Catholiciſm in Europe, and the increaſing preference for freſh proviſions had leſſened the demand for ſalted fiſh: Glaſgow continued to avail itſelf of thoſe ſhoals of herrings which frequent the mouth of the Clyde.

In the courſe of the laſt century, Glaſgow, with the reſt of Scotland continued to languiſh, without advancing in trade or opulence, above that height which it had reached before the acceſſion of James VI. to the throne of England. The citizens of Glaſgow and its neighbourhood acted the part of zealous, and puritanical Preſbyterians, in the religious diſſentions

which in the laſt century prevailed in Scotland, They had equally diſtinguiſhed themſelves by reforming zeal at the overthrow of Popery. It was indeed natural for them to do ſo: They had ſeen the Popiſh Clergy in all their wealth, in all their pomp, in all their luxury: And the influence of their Univerſity muſt have rendered them more quick-ſighted than many others in the detection of errours.

THE *Revolution* firſt,—and afterwards the *Union* awakened anew the energies of Trade among the inhabitants of Glaſgow. They began to eſtabliſh manufactures, and to extend their commerce to all quarters of the world. The manufactures of carpets and other woollen-ſtuffs,—of linens of all different fabrics,—of leather,—of iron,---of carthenware,---of ſoap,---of glaſs,---and of various other articles were eſtabliſhed among them. The linen-manufacture became their ſtaple manufacture. Meanwhile, our Colonies in North-America were advancing faſt. Glaſgow opened a trade with them. It was enlarged to a vaſt extent. All articles of the produce or manufacture of the adjacent parts of Scotland, all that they could import with ſuch advantage as to render them fit for re-exportation,---were eagerly carried out by the merchants of Glaſgow to ſupply the wants of America. Tobacco, again, tar, logs, and the other products of America

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were as eagerly imported, and either diſperſed through the country, or re-exported to various quarters. Crowds of young men reſorting from all the Weſt of Scotland, ſailed from Glaſgow, to ſettle in America. Many of the merchants of Glaſgow had warehouſes in the towns of America, managed by a brother, a couſin, a clerk, or a partner. The trade with the Weſt Indies was equally a branch of the Commerce of Glaſgow: and there was the ſame intimacy of connection between the merchants of Glaſgow and the merchants and planters in our Weſt Indies.——From the termination of the War by the Peace of 1763, eſpecially, had the trade of Glaſgow been amazingly increaſed. Our Colonies became much more flouriſhing after that event than they had ever before been: and with their proſperity was that of Glaſgow moſt eſſentially connected.

THE American War was a dreadful ſtroke to Glaſgow. Long credits had been always given to America. Conſequently, when the War broke out, many American debts are well-known to have remained unpaid. The ſtock and the means of employing it were taken away at once. Many a failure enſued in Glaſgow: and the advancement of this city was thus for a while arreſted. Even then however, the merchants of Glaſgow are ſaid not to have been univerſally loſers by the American War. All the

artifices

artifices of traffic were naturally tried to recover loſſes and to prolong the trade. At the concluſion of the War, they had hopes to renew a commerce which they regarded as their beſt hope. It was renewed. But, they renewed it with ſuch eagerneſs, and carried out quantities of goods ſo much larger than the Americans needed, or at leaſt had money to pay for, that they were again loſers. Their trade with America is now much leſs conſiderable than it was before the American war.

FINDING their trade cramped, they have, ſince the American War, turned their chief attention to their manufactures. All their former manufactures have been enlarged,---and that of cotton in all its branches has been introduced among them, and proſecuted with the moſt enterpriſing earneſtneſs. The merchants and manufacturers of Glaſgow are proprietors of moſt of the cotton-works through Scotland. This is the centre from which the ſpirit, the energies of manufacture are ſpread out over the whole kingdom. Hence is the whole of Renfrewſhire and a great part of Lanerk-ſhire in ſome ſort one large ſtraggling manufacturing town. With their manufactures, the providers of the raw materials, and the exporters of the manufactured goods have neceſſarily increaſed. The numbers of thoſe who have acquired fortunes have increaſed with the

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numbers of thoſe who are buſy in the acquiſition. The artiſans who furniſh the neceſſaries of life; the miniſters of elegance and of luxury have all become more numerous. The buildings have been amazingly enlarged. The modes of life have become more luxurious: and Glaſgow has increaſed to be one of the largeſt towns in Britain, and one of the moſt elegant in Europe.

I AM not ſure, that the Univerſity of Glaſgow has continued to advance, with the advancement of the city. It has had a ſucceſſion, however, of men of learning and abilities for Profeſſors, ſince the days at leaſt of *Baillie*, of *Burnet*, and of *Sinclair*,---that profeſſor of moral philoſophy in Glaſgow, who diſtinguiſhed himſelf by the compoſition and the publication of *Satan's Inviſible World Diſcovered*. The merits of that eminent moral philoſopher, *Dr Hutcheſon*, are univerſally known. He was a follower of *Shaftſbury*, more clear, more preciſe, more eloquent than his maſter. He is ſaid to have been amiable in his manners, as that Benevolence into which he wiſhed to reſolve all the modifications of virtue. Like the *Peripatetics* of old, he was accuſtomed to walk about while he diſcourſed to his pupils. If he ſucceeded not in his attempts to aſcertain the moſt general facts concerning the nature and the origin of our ſentiments

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of virtue; thoſe who have come after him, have not been more ſucceſsful than he; *The taſk remains yet to be performed.---Leechman*, the friend and biographer of Hutcheſon, and amiable and reſpectable as he, was another ornament of the Univerſity of Glaſgow. Here too flouriſhed *Dunlop* and *Moore* eminent in Greek; and *Roſs* praiſed by *Melmoth* for his annotations on ſome parts of Cicero's works. The late Dr *Adam Smith* the *friend* of Hume, and diſtinguiſhed through Europe chiefly for his eminence in commercial philoſophy, with the preſent age, one of the moſt favourite branches, of ſcience, received his early education at the univerſity of Glaſgow; went from Glaſgow, an exhibitioner, to ſtudy at Oxford; and after his return became Profeſſor of Moral Philoſophy here. After teaching this ſcience for ſome time, with high reputation in this Univerſity; he was invited to travel with the Duke of Buccleugh. He ſpent his latter years in Edinburgh, in the office of a Commiſſioner of the Cuſtoms. His *Theory of Moral Sentiments* is a very beautiful compoſition. Like the Theories of Hutcheſon, it is illuſtrated by many fine, particular ethical truths: But as little is *Sympathy* as that *Benevolence* of which it is a modification, the moſt general principle on which our perception of Morality depends: the human heart knows not in its moral exertions, thoſe turnings and doublings which he

has

has aſcribed to it; Sympathy is but one of many rills deſcending from the great ſpring of all our moral ſentiments. In his *Wealth of Nations*, the metaphyſics of commerce have been, for the firſt time ſkilfully taught. His Friends ſpeak in terms of admiration of his genius, his taſte, and his knowledge, which ſeem to convey ſtill higher ideas of his character,—than do his works, although ſurely among the moſt perfect of human compoſitions. *Smith* was ſucceeded, in the chair of *Moral Philoſophy* by *Reid*, the great and ſucceſsful opponent of the Ideal Philoſophy. While in *Aberdeen*, Dr Reid had publiſhed his *Enquiry* concerning the Senſes, in which the ſceptical metaphyſics of Hume and Berkley were refuted with more of philoſophical preciſion, than by any other of that legion of adverſaries whoſe oppoſition Hume roufed againſt himſelf. After continuing long to oppoſe Hume's principles from the profeſſor's chair, *Reid* has in his old age, given to the world two quarto volumes on the *Intellectual* and the *Active Power of Man;* in which he has certainly proved, that the unaccountable abſurdities and inconſiſtencies of the Ideal Philoſophy have generally originated in a ſtrangely unthinking aſcription,—without evidence, and indeed againſt all appearances —of the qualities of Matter to Mind; and from the very incorrect application of language and alluſions appropriated to the deſcription of material objects,

in ſpeaking of mind. Dr *Wilſon*, profeſſor of Aſtronomy in this Univerſity, is equally eminent as a Philoſopher and as a Type-Founder; in the latter character, he is perhaps without an equal in Europe. The Critical and the Poetical works of Mr Richardſon, profeſſor of Humanity here, are very generally read and admired. Although Glaſgow be the ſeat of no Supreme Court of Juſtice; yet has it became famous, above almoſt every other place in Britain as a ſchool for Law; Mr Millar, the profeſſor of the ſcience of Law, in this Univerſity, is well-known by his work on the Diſtinctions of Ranks, and by his *Hiſtorical Eſſay* on the Engliſh Conſtitution. It is to hear his Lectures on the firſt Elements of Juriſprudence and Government,---on the Roman or Civil,---on the Scotch,---and on the Engliſh Law, that ſtudents reſort hither from all quarters of Britain. Glaſgow is, in ſhort, famous as a ſchool for Law, as Edinburgh as a ſchool for medicine.

THE exertions which were made by two private traders, the late *Robert and Andrew Foulis*, to eſtabliſh here an Academy for Painting, are not unknown to the world. The undertaking beſpoke a degree of taſte, of patriotiſm, of enterprize, which certainly merited royal or national encouragement. It met with no ſuch encouragement; and failed of ſucceſs. The editions of the Greek, the Roman, and

and the Engliſh claſſics which were publiſhed by the *Foulifes* are known and admired through all Europe. The luſtre is not faint, which theſe men have reflected on their country. More learned editions of the claſſics have indeed iſſued from the preſſes of the Engliſh Univerſities: but none more beautiful or more correct, than thoſe which the *Foulifes* have ſent into the world from the preſs of the Univerſity of Glaſgow.

HERE is a good *Grammar*-School, under excellent management; and were it not, that the Scotch univerſally allot too ſhort a time for the initiation of their youth in the principles of claſſical learning,---- and that the exerciſes are injudicious which we have been long accuſtomed to preſcribe in our ſchools; No ſeminary could be better calculated for the earlier education of youth in this important branch of liberal education.

THAT political ferment which had begun to be felt in Glaſgow when I had paſſed through it into Galloway, had by this time riſen high. Many an Aſſociation of Friends of the People had been formed in Glaſgow; the works of Maſter Thomas Paine were univerſally read: and to aſſiſt the political ſtudies of the poor, abridgements and excerpts of the works of this Great Reformer of Nations were

aſſiduouſly circulated. A young man who had ſtudied law, and had, ſome years before, begun to practiſe, but with little ſucceſs, at the Scottiſh Bar, had taken it upon him to act as the great apoſtle of Reform in this neighbourhood. Many of the manufacturers were ignorant enough of their own true intereſts, to promote the cry of reform, and to ſtir up a political buſtle in their work-ſhops. When the labourer received his weekly wages, and went to the alehouſe or dram-ſhop; the wickedneſs and worthleſſneſs of the great; the importance of the poor; the equalization of ranks, and the new diviſion of property were moſt ſeductive themes which gave a richer reliſh to his ale, and new powers of intoxication to his whiſky. It was charming, when his wages were exhauſted, and not a drop of more liquor could be obtained,—to curſe the conſtitution which kept him poor. And when obliged to return unwillingly to labour, it gave him ſome ſatisfaction, to pray for damnation on kings, miniſters, peers, and penſioners. Seeing that the laws of our country leave to every individual very extenſive liberty of word and action; the party calling themſelves *Friends of the People* ſeemed willing to try whether they could not overſtep thoſe bounds, extenſive as they might be.——

It would have been difficult to perſuade the men of trade and property who were leaders in the buſtle of reform, that they were, with their own hands, working out miſchief to themſelves;---or to perſuade the poor that all this would end not in making them rich and great, but in bringing diſtreſs on themſelves, while it might involve in embarraſſments thoſe ſuperiors whom they envied. But, while I have prepared to lay before the public, theſe notes of obſervations which I made in my harveſt-journey: ſuch conſequences have actually followed from that *French Diſeaſe* with which the inhabitants of Britain were, in the end of laſt year, infected.—— The firſt conſequence, was, that the work-men in the manufactures, having much of that time which they had formerly ſpent in induſtry, conſumed amid their political cares, began to demand higher wages from their employers, and to require thoſe wages, before they were due. Their employers, meanwhile, obtaining leſs labour from them than formerly, were diſtreſſed for want of hands, to enable them to anſwer their orders. But, from theſe circumſtances, little miſchief reſulted; for, as we manufactured at that time for all the continent; we could inſiſt on our own prices, and---to a certain length---take our own time. But, when the labourers in thoſe manufactures, of which the products were, for the moſt part exported, required

quired higher wages; the prices of the neceſſaries and conveniencies of life were, at the ſame time, raiſed upon them: The colliers required additional wages: The ſervants of the farmers thought that their maſters might well give them higher wages, and might think themſelves happily off that their ploughmen and threſhers did not demand equal ſhares in their ſtock. The taylor, the ſhoemaker, the baker, in ſhort every artiſan, and all who had any thing to ſell, demanded higher prices and higher wages. Thus far all went wonderfully well. The employers and the buyers were generally obliged to yield. The workmen exulted in their ſucceſs: and the *Friends of the People* claimed their thanks. But, a ſtorm was brewing.

Our good neighbours, the French, were, by ſome means or other, particularly informed concerning all theſe little matters. Some ſay that among other means uſed to inform them, our unprincipled newſpapers, the inſects of a day, which began about that time to be publiſhed, and have ſince diſappeared, were carefully tranſmitted to certain members of the French National Aſſembly, who were proprietors and editors of French Newſpapers, ---and ſent hither, in return, among other things, copies of their own Papers. In thoſe Newſpapers of ours, the moſt diſagreeable facts were inflamed,

of

of purpoſe, it is ſaid, to raiſe the importance of the Publiſhers with their French Friends. However theſe things may be; the French were fluſhed with the hope of ſharing with the Friends of the People, in the plunder of Britain. Full of this hope, they no longer ſtrove to conciliate the favour of the Britiſh Government. They ceaſed to confeſs that Britain had preceded them in the career of Freedom, and that the pattern of Britiſh Law and Liberty was the beſt they could imitate. Our Allies were no longer reſpected; our eſteem was no longer courted. All the wiſh and hope of thoſe republican knaves or enthuſiaſts, was to find ſome pretence of declaring war againſt us, without offending thoſe Britiſh Admirers whom they fancied ready to join them, and to draw the nation after them. In vain did our Government ſtrive to maintain peace, without forfeiting the national honour, or riſking our national exiſtence. The French believed all Britain impatient to be *fraternized*, and to receive them into a community of gods. *Holland* was invaded. Our humanity was inſulted. Our *Friends to the People* named the day when *Dumourier* was to raiſe his banner in triumph, on the battlements of our proudeſt citadels.

WHAT part remained for our Government to act? Either to oppoſe thoſe robbers of the Nations, who

who ravaged the earth, under the maſk of political enthuſiaſm, or to give up the State to diſſolution, and the iſland to plunder. Wiſe and vigorous meaſures were immediately taken. To the aſtoniſhment and utter confuſion of the French and their correſpondents, every wiſe and virtuous ſubject earneſtly ſtrengthened the hands of Government. Troops have been levied and ſent to the aid of our allies: Our fleets have been equipped, and ſent out, to annoy our enemies, to guard our coaſts, and to protect our Trade. Deprived of the reſources which they had found in their commercial intercourſe with Britain; the French have been reduced to extremities of hunger and nakedneſs. Their attempts on Holland have miſerably miſgiven. They have retreated in diſgrace from the ravaged Netherlands. Ruin hovers over them; as the vulture over the field of carnage. Our arms are crowned with glory,---as when *Anne commanded, and when Marlborough fought.* We recover that vigour of character, which was beginning to be relaxed and diſſolved by the influence of Peace, and of that Trade and thoſe Arts which Peace naturally foſtered. But, what of all this? ——Alas! what domeſtic diſtreſs have we not in the mean time ſuffered?——

Supplying that *ſpecie* which is neceſſary to defray our foreign expences in the war; the Bank of England

England have been obliged to withdraw in part their ſupport from our merchants and manufacturers. The reſtrictions which war neceſſarily lays on Trade, by enhancing its expences and increaſing its riſk, however moderated by circumſtances, muſt always be greatly injurious to a commercial Nation like the Britiſh. But, the Correſpondence carried on between Britain and France had been of ſuch a peculiar nature, and the conduct of the French ſo ſingularly inſidious; that extraordinary exertions became neceſſary to check all ſuch correſpondence, and to prevent the French from combatting us with our own wealth and our own ſtrength. Hence were the merchant's goods left in his hands; and the opportunity of bringing them to the market cut off. His bills could not be honoured, ſince he had not been able to transfer his goods. Bankruptcy neceſſarily enſued wherever the merchant's ſtock was not in ready caſh. It was not enough for him to be rich in goods or in bills granted by another merchant. Experience of theſe diſadvantages in one or two inſtances, dread of them in others, and a ſenſe of the inconvenience of the circumſtances to the influence of which trade was now ſubjected, produced a general alarm through the kingdom. If Public Credit remained ſecure; Private Credit was, however for a time ſhaken. Nothing but anxiety, doubt, and diſtreſs, was to be ſeen through all the com-

mercial towns of Britain. The rich, if manufacturers or merchants were in diſtreſs. And how then, muſt the poor have been who depended upon them?

All theſe events have happened, in conſequence of that political frenzy which was weakly or wickedly ſtirred up among us, by the admirers or adherents of the French. The buſtle made by the *Friends of the People* fixed the minds of the labouring and the trading part of the community with ideas of their political importance and of their ſkill in Legiſlation and Government, which raiſed them above aſſiduous application to labour or the negociations of buſineſs: The labourers were, in conſequence, obliged to demand higher wages for that little labour which they ſulkily performed: and the traders, amid the difficulties to which they were ſubjected by the turbulence and indolence of the labourers were obliged to ſupport their trade by Ruinous exertions of credit, and to trade with the balance on the wrong ſide in their books: The French were encouraged by theſe appearances, and theſe alone, to commence hoſtilities againſt us: Our neceſſary oppoſition to the progreſs of their arms has fettered our trade: The temporary expedients of our traders have been at the ſame time exhauſted; and the next events in the chain have been Bankruptcies, the diſmiſſion

diſmiſſion of workmen, the ſhutting up of work-ſhops, hunger, nakedneſs, beggary, and among the poor, all the diſtreſſes of want.

FORTUNATELY the exertions of the wiſer and more virtuous part of the community have ſtilled the bray of civil diſſenſion; while our Legiſlature and our Government have interfered, to ſupport our tottering commercial credit. The alarm is now over. Induſtry returns by degrees to its former channel. Even amid the inconveniencies of war, our trade is again likely to advance in a career of proſperity. But, till the evils of a war in which we have been thus miſchievouſly involved by pretended patriots, ſhall terminate; our trade and manufactures cannot regain that flouriſhing condition in which we lately beheld them. Thus, to uſe an appoſite Iriciſm, have our People *gained* a *loſs* by the officious ſervices of their pretended Friends. Yet, let us rejoice that they have been checked in the career of Reform, before they could hurry to that pitch of Reformation which their Admired French have attained. Glaſgow has not yet been reduced to the deſolation and the deſpair of Lyons. Shops and warehouſes have not been pillaged, now by the mob maddened by want; and now by the tax-gatherers of an anarchical Government. The produce of our harveſts has not been left to rot, unreaped

reaped in the fields. The farmer has not been robbed of that little grain which he had reſerved for bread to his family, and for ſeed againſt the returning Spring.

REVIEWING the notes which I had jotted down concerning the ſtate of Glaſgow, when I viſited it in October and November laſt; and comparing them with the events of the winter; I have been inſenſibly led into theſe reflections. I have indulged in them the more readily; becauſe I think that the chain of unhappy events which I have here traced, —have taken their firſt origin, in a good meaſure,— *from the* NECESSARY CHARACTER AND MANNERS *of the Manufacturing Poor, crowded together in Great Towns, not diſtributed over the country;—From the* IMPERFECT EDUCATION, *and the* EARLY HABITS OF PROFLIGACY, *which indeed our Youth in general, but eſpecially the children of the manufacturing poor, inhabitants of great towns, acquire;—From the* MANIFEST DECLINE *of* RELIGION, *of* GOOD MORALS, *and* DECENCY OF MANNERS IN THE LAND. Our Clergy, friendly ever to the union of Order and *Freedom*, have diſtinguiſhed themſelves by an active oppoſition to the late efforts of ſedition. But, let me neither be laughed at, as aſſuming the character of a *Cenſor morum*, without due attention to Time and Circumſtances,—nor reproached and frowned upon,

as petulantly impertinent,—If I here adjure them, by the ſincerity of their religious profeſſions, by that maſter in whoſe name, and under whoſe authority they preach,—To lay the axe to the root of the tree, and to renew that earneſt watchfulneſs over the manners of their people, which was once thought the firſt duty of a miniſter of the Goſpel. There was a time when a clergyman of the Church of Scotland uſed to viſit the families in his pariſh one after another,—obſerving carefully the manners and enquiring into the religious belief and knowledge of each individual in every family,—round after round,—without intermiſſion; when he was ever ready to draw the curtain of the bed of ſickneſs, and to liſten with ſoothing ſympathy to the tale of ſorrow; regarded even the meaneſt individuals in his flock, as his children, and was regarded by them with filial affection, and with more than filial veneration. Alas! is that time now no more? Are the ties diſſolved which once united the Paſtor with his flock? The progreſs of refinement may be in part the cauſe. But, it is a pernicious refinement which produces ſuch effects. If the circumſtances of Great Towns render it impoſſible for their clergy to keep there ſo watchful an eye over the conduct of their people; I aſk no better proof that Great Towns are deſtructive to the virtue, and by conſequence to the civil and political exiſtence of every

ſtate

ſtate in which they are ſuffered to increaſe to ſuch an unhappy magnitude.—What might not be accompliſhed upon the minds of the people, by the liberality of the preſent clergy of the Church of Scotland, co-operating with the zeal, and the unwearied aſſiduity which diſtinguiſhed the clergy of the ſame Church in a former period? It is not wonderful, that Eſtabliſhed Religion ſhould begin to be held unneceſſary to the well-being of a State, when our Eſtabliſhed Clergy are inſenſibly ſurrendering that authority over the ſentiments and manners of their people which hearty and unremitted induſtry in all the duties of their office never fails to eſtabliſh them in. I may be blamed for throwing out theſe hints. But, I were the baſeſt of Traitors, if after once preſuming to ſpeak of the Good and Evil of my country; I ſhould not ſpeak out to the beſt of my judgment, of the firſt cauſes upon which theſe depend.

From GLASGOW *to* STIRLING.

FROM Glaſgow I proceeded to Kirkintilloch; meaning to return to Edinburgh, by the way of Stirling and Perth. It was the evening before ſome cattle-market: and the way by which I paſſed out of the City, was crowded with cattle and their drivers. I was once or twice preſſed to make a purchaſe

purchaſe of cattle; as I happened to look upon them with an eye which ſeemed to the drivers to beſpeak an intention to aſk the price. With one, I entered into converſation, and learned that he brought his cattle from the Mackenzie's country in the North Highlands. By converſing with another traveller, with whom I fell into company, I learned what ſeemed to me an odd and ridiculous enough anecdote concerning a late ſchiſm among the Baptiſts in Glaſgow. My informer was himſelf of that Society, had ſufficient acceſs to know the truth of the fact, and did not tell it as a ſubject for either wonder or laughter: ſo that I made no difficulty of believing him. A lady who was to be baptiſed upon entering into this Baptiſt communion, being ſo tender, that, without danger to her health, ſhe could not be dipped in cold water: The water for her uſe in this ceremony, was therefore made lukewarm: But, ſuch a heinous violation of the rules of Baptiſm did this warming of the water appear to a number in the Baptiſt ſociety, that they would no longer hold communion with thoſe who had conſented to it: A ſchiſm enſued, and a new congregation was formed. Thus do the Imagination and the Paſſions of the human heart magnify *trifles light as air* to weight and magnitude.

NEAR

NEAR *Kirkintilloch* I overtook two of the inhabitants of that village, on their way home from Glaſgow. I was glad to join them: for it was dark, and I was now alone. Aſking their news, I was anſwered, that their chief news, was the hope of the new diviſion of property to be obtained by the exertions of the *Friends of the People*. They were readier in quoting Paine's writings, than I ſhould poſſibly have found them in their Bible. They ſpoke with exultation of a Society of *Friends to the People* which had been formed in their town.

KIRKINTILLOCH is a Burgh of Barony of ancient erection. The lands belonging to the burgh, under the name and character of Burgh-roods are far from inconſiderable. It may contain ſome hundreds of inhabitants. Weaving is one of the chief employments of theſe townſmen. I ſuppoſe that they are chiefly weavers employed by the manufacturers of Glaſgow, not maſter-manufacturers, who reſide here. The women of the town and the circumjacent country earn not a little by ſpinning. A cotton-work was ſome time ſince tried, but, through what cauſes I know not, proved unſucceſsful, and was given up. The grounds round Kirkintilloch are under more careleſs cultivation, than I ſhould have expected, in a neighbourhood where acceſs to good markets is ſo eaſy.

THE

This town is ſituate on the river Kelvin, and nearly, I think, on a Roman ſtation. The Roman wall, extending between *Abercorn* on the Frith of Forth, and *Dunglaſs* on the *Clyde*, near *Dunbarton;* and forming the northern boundary of the province of *Valentia*, paſſed this way, and is ſtill diſtinctly traced in the vicinity of Kirkintilloch. The preſent policy of this iſland requires not walls to divide the inhabitants of one part from thoſe of another, but channels of intercourſe, by which they may be virtually brought nearer together. The canal between the Forth and the Clyde runs, in ſome parts of its length, in a parallel line with the Roman wall; in others, encroaches upon, or breaks through it. This canal has been much an object of Public Attention for theſe good many years bypaſt, and has been too often deſcribed, to leave me reaſon to ſuppoſe that any deſcription which I could here give of it, might prove intereſting to my reader. The utilities likely to reſult from ſuch a junction of our eaſt and weſt coaſts were ſufficiently evident, before the undertaking was begun. The induſtry of the whole country was animated by its progreſs. Although not yet long finiſhed; it begins already to afford liberal returns to thoſe at whoſe expence it was executed. And when Trade ſhall once have accuſtomed itſelf to this channel; I doubt not that the Proprietors may come to divide their twenty, thir-

ty, or forty per cent. on the Forth and Clyde Navigation;—juſt as well as do the ſharers in the profits of many of the canals in England.——

Since I returned from my little journey,—in the end of the laſt, and in the beginning of the preſent year; another canal has been projected,—to be carried between Edinburgh, and theſe vaſt ſtrata of pit-coal in Lanerkſhire. For, the colliers, infected with the ſame frenzy which has lately predominated among our other workmen, inſiſted, like the others, on an augmentation of wages. The coal-maſters availed themſelves of the pretence, to demand an increaſed price for their coals, not ſimply equivalent to the additional wages which they were obliged to pay to their workmen, but ſuch as, at the ſame time, greatly to enlarge their own gains. Fuel is, in theſe cold regions, among the prime neceſſaries of human life. The riſing price of feul may well be remembered to have produced among us, in our towns eſpecially, and in the ſeats of manufacture, general alarm and diſtreſs. Thoſe mechanics who had, almoſt riotouſly inſiſted upon an augmentation of their own wages, clamoured grievouſly at that increaſed price for feul which they were obliged to pay, in conſequence of the colliers having ſucceeded in the ſame demand. Extraordinary expedients were employed for the relief of the poor.

Among

Among other means ſuggeſted to the inhabitants of Edinburgh, to enable them to obtain coals at a more moderate price, was, that of cutting this canal, on which coals might be imported cheap from Lanerkſhire. The idea was at firſt eagerly embraced. A ſubſcription was opened, and ſeemed likely to be ſpeedily filled up. But, the diſtreſs which ſuggeſted the ſcheme has come to be leſs ſenſibly felt; and I have not for ſome time heard any noiſe about this new canal. Yet, I ſuppoſe that meaſures have begun to be taken for its accompliſhment.

Not far beyond *Kirkintilloch*, I found *Kilſyth*, a village ſimilar in ſize, inhabited chiefly by labourers in the cotton and linen manufacture, and pleaſantly enough ſituate.

Continuing my journey towards Stirling, I was directed to take a very indifferent road which leads up a height and acroſs a wide and very wild muir. This is the old road: Had I been fortunate enough to be better directed, I ſhould have travelled round the baſe of the hill, along a level and well-made road. From the height I enjoyed an extenſive proſpect of the country lying below, to the ſouth and the ſouth-weſt. The ſight of *Falkirk* with its environs beginning to aſſume an aſpect of rich cultivation, was not unintereſting. The wild over which I continu-

ed my journey had an air of bleakneſs which ſtruck me more than the heaths and hills of Galloway and and the weſt Highlands. Perhaps the impreſſions which remained on my mind after the ſcenes of cultivation which I had ſo lately left, might render this heath more dreary to my imagination than I ſhould otherwiſe have found it. Black cattle and ſheep here and there animated its ſolitude. At times, as I rode on, I could ſee no human habitation all around. I had then leiſure to reflect, that on theſe ſcenes had the Romans ſhone in arms: Here had ſome of thoſe battles been moſt probably fought, which have been celebrated in the ſongs of Oſſian and his contemporary bards; Here I had to paſs the river *Carron*, one of the moſt poetical ſtreams in Scotland: And on it ſtood the famous *Dunipace*, repreſented by *Buchanan*, as the hills of peace,—by the late Sir *James Foulis*, with a better ſhew of probability named *Dunabas*, the hills of death. Beſide theſe ideas formed to work upon the fancy, and to awaken thoſe ſentiments of fond veneration with which we regard the characters, the manners, the imagery of antiquity; other conſiderations were ſuggeſted to my mind, by the appearance of the iron-ſtone which I ſaw in great plenty ſcattered upon different parts of this *muir*. I reflected, that the iron-works of Carron were not far diſtant; and was pleaſed to think that human induſtry is capable of converting to uſe, even the ru-

deſt

deſt materials that nature furniſhes. Had I not been haſtening.—and by this time, with no ſmall impatience, to the end of my journey; I ſhould have certainly been induced to viſit the ſeat of a manufacture which does ſo much honour to the ingenuity of our country, and which contributes ſuch a multitude of articles to the ordinary accommodation of life.

I WAS at length, upon the north eaſt ſide of this extenſive *muir* which ſome travellers whom I paſſed, named to me *Tak me down hill.* As I advanced into the plain below, the country around and before me preſented an aſpect ſtill more and more pleaſing. The *Forth;* the intereſting objects on its northern banks; the ſpires of *Stirling;* the village of *St Ninians;* the famed field of *Bannockburn;* and a multitude of other objects, any two or three of which might ſufficiently adorn a ſcene of moderate extent,---roſe all together to my view. The agriculture of the lands through which I here paſſed, ſeemed to be improving; Yet, improvements did not appear to have been very long tried upon it. I obſerved ſome limeſtone quarries. A ſtone on the highway ſide, where it croſſes the field of *Bannockburn*, is ſaid to have ſupported the ſtandard of the Scottiſh army on the day of the eventful battle, which here finally defeated the ſchemes of the Engliſh Edwards for uniting

uniting the whole iſland by conqueſt, under their ſovereignty. The anecdote of the ſtone ſeems to be generally credited in the country,——on what grounds I know not.

St Ninian's is a village of ſome antiquity. It owed its origin, I think, to religion. Its church and ſpire were deſtroyed by the Rebels in the year 1745. The peaſantry of the neighbourhood relate, with ſatisfaction—as if they believed, that Heaven had concerned itſelf to avenge the cauſe of their church,—that the rebels were conſtantly unfortunate after this ſacrilegious act.

Stirling—and to Perth.

STIRLING is one of the moſt ancient cities of Scotland. In the earlieſt parts of its hiſtory, it ſeems to have been held of great importance, as a ſtrength, commanding the paſs between the Highlands and the ſouth of Scotland. It muſt have come into the hands of the *Picts* at a very early period after the retreat of the Romans out of Britain. I know not certainly whether it was ever in the hands of the Anglo-Saxons of Northumberland. When, after the union of the Scots and Picts under the name of the former; theſe people incroached upon the

the *Angles*, on one ſide, while the Danes harraſſed them on another; and they were driven from the ſouth and the weſt of Scotland, and even conſiderably within the preſent border of England; Stirling then fell of courſe into the hands of the Scotch. It became, for a time, the capital of Scotland. Its caſtle, naturally ſtrong, was farther fortified with all the art of thoſe rude times; and was, by conſequence, a fit ſeat for royalty, at a time, when our kings found it neceſſary to conſult ſecurity no leſs than magnificence. Before the reign of James I. indeed *Edinburgh* does not appear to have been the favourite ſeat of any of our Scottiſh monarchs. Their more northern ſeats had been *Dunolly* or *Dunſtaffnage*, *Inverneſs*, *Scone*, *Fortevict*,—and Robert III. had a caſtle near *Logierait*, where he ſpent much of the latter part of his life. The Pictiſh princes had reſided at *Abernethy*, and at *Kinroſs*; but I have not found, that the Scottiſh princes ever reſided in the former of theſe places, or for any length of time in the latter. *Dunfermline*, *Stirling*, *Linlithgow* were the favourite ſeats of the Scottiſh Courts between the eſtabliſhment of the *Normans* in England, and the return of James I. from his captivity.

WHEN the Engliſh and the Scots contended, the former for the ſovereignty of Scotland, and the latter for liberty;

liberty; Stirling was the ſcene of various conteſts. Beſide the battle of Bannockburn fought in its vicinity, another, at an earlier period in the ſame conteſt, in which William Wallace commanded, was fought upon the northern ſide of the Forth, and partly upon the bridge which was broken down upon the occaſion: But of this action the circumſtances and the event are more doubtful than thoſe of the battle of Bannockburn.

Even during the reigns of the *Jameſes*, the court often reſided at Stirling. Here was the Earl of Douglas ſtabbed by *James* II! *James* V. who like ſome other great monarchs, ſometimes rambled through his dominions in diſguiſe, uſed, on ſuch occaſions, to take the name of *Goodman of Ballochgeich;* a name taken from a part of the hill on which the caſtle of *Stirling* ſtands. Here was *James* VI. chriſtened. Here did he occaſionally reſide; while he continued in Scotland; and here was his eldeſt ſon Henry likewiſe chriſtened. Through the troubles of the laſt century, and during the repeated rebellions in which Scotland has been unfortunately involved in the preſent century, Stirling has been a ſcene of conteſt, and has been always regarded as a place of importance.

Like

LIKE *Edinburgh*, *Stirling* has its principal ſtreet winding up a hill. But this hill riſes with a leſs gentle declivity than that on which the High-Street of Edinburgh ſtands. The houſes appear to be, for the greater part, old, or at leaſt ſuch as if they have been rebuilt within theſe laſt hundred years, have, however been rebuilt nearly in their primitive faſhion. Many of them ſeem to have been anciently appropriated to purpoſes of higher dignity and magnificence, than thoſe for which they are now occupied. Thoſe in which different noble families had been accuſtomed to reſide, were pointed out to me. The old palace of the *Argyle* family has ſtill an auguſt, although deſolate appearance. *Marr's* palace remains unfiniſhed, as it was left by the Regent, but has not been demoliſhed. The walls of the caſtle ſtill incloſe a number of ſtately buildings; which, if not diſfurniſhed, and fallen into a ſtate of diſrepair, both within and without, might ſtill afford not inelegant accommodation. Of theſe edifices ſome were built by the third and fourth of the Jameſes; others. in a better ſtyle of Architecture, by James V. and a chapel was haſtily reared by James VI. for the baptiſm of his ſon *Henry*. Carpenters were buſy, converting the ancient ſtate-rooms into barracks for the reception of ſoldiers,—at the time when I was within the walls of this caſtle. On the ſouthern part of the plain below, appear the remains of the

ancient royal gardens: in which are obſervable, ſpots which ſeem to have been artificially prepared for the celebration of various ſports. On the northern ſide is an eminence from which attempts were at one time ineffectually made by the Rebels to cannonade the caſtle. The proſpects of the adjacent country from the battlements of *Stirling*-Caſtle are on all ſides extenſive and intereſting. Looking towards the *north-weſt*, you ſee the *Forth* and the *Teith* advancing from gloomy hills and a wide extent of level heath; winding as they approach, through a tract highly rich and cultivated: and meeting near the ſtation from which you take your view: The *Allan*, too, a ſtream celebrated in ſome of our Scottiſh ſongs brings its waters to join them. The houſe of *Craigforth* appears on a little inſulated mount, in one of the windings of the *Forth*, and ſtarting, with an highly picturesque effect from the level plain in which it ſtands. At ſome remote period, the vaſt heath-covered and moraſſy plain which here opens with ſomewhat of a ſublime effect upon the eye, has probably been one extenſive foreſt. The ſoil is almoſt every where covered with peat-earth, to a conſiderable depth. It was formerly occupied ſolely for paſture for ſheep and black-cattle. But, the late *Lord* KAIMES ſet a noble example on the eſtate of Blair-Drummond of improving it to the happieſt purpoſes of agriculture. Where the peat-

peat-earth had been cut away for fuel; beneath it, was every where found a rich and deep ſtratum of a ſtrong clayey ſoil, on which it ſeemed probable that the richeſt crops might be raiſed, if the *moſs* or peat-earth could only be cut away from any conſiderable tract. His Lordſhip had *drains* accordingly cut, and directed the farmers to clear away the *moſs*, and to place it in heaps, ſo that when rains fell, and *ſpeats* were raiſed; it might be carried into the drains or trenches, and from them into the river; leaving the ſoil which it had covered, clear, and ready to receive the plough. The experiment ſucceeded. The enlightened ſuggeſter was conſequently induced to invite a number of families from the remoter Highlands; to let them leaſes of this *moſs*-covered ground for rents at firſt very ſmall, but to riſe at ſtated periods in the progreſs of each leaſe. Theſe families were ſettled here and there in the *moſs*, as ſo many coloniſts among the woods of America. The ſame proceſs of clearing the ſoil was requiſite here as in America. Roads were to be cut through the moraſs, juſt as if it had been a foreſt. And many of the ſame circumſtances ſeemed to attend the clearing of the ſoil from wood covering it in this ſtate of decay, as muſt have attended the clearing away of the wood, if it had been freſh and growing. Every thing however, had a reaſonable ſucceſs. Luxuriant crops were raiſed on ground

that had been once thought unſuſceptible of cultivation. The indolence of the Highlanders was rouſed by the proſpect of wealth which opened to them: For it is remarkable that although the Highlanders be indolent at home; yet they poſſeſs ſuch energy of character, and ſuch vigour of conſtitution, that if you place them, where there are objects to rouſe deſire, and where induſtry can avail them; they never fail to exert themſelves with a degree of activity and ingenuity and commonly with ſucceſs, ſuch as few others are capable of. The other Landholders and their tenants readily imitated ſo encouraging an example; however lightly they might at firſt think of it. Mr Home, his lordſhip's ſon, the preſent proprietor of the Eſtate of *Blair-Drummond* is ſaid to have followed out his father's views in this line, and even to have improved upon them, with the moſt encouraging ſucceſs.

One can hardly have occaſion to remember the late Lord *Kaimes*, without being at the ſame time led to reflect, how much his country has been indebted to him!—Many are the improvements in agriculture, the firſt of all our arts, which he either ſuggeſted to his friends,—or exemplified himſelf, on his own eſtates,—or as one of the Truſtees for fiſheries and improvements, was principally active in ſuggeſting to be encouraged through the country,

of

or in trying on the forfeited eſtates. His *Collections* reſpecting the municipal law of Scotland, his *Principles of Equity*, and other writings on the Philoſophy of Law, ſufficiently beſpeak his learning and abilities as a lawyer. His *Elements of Criticiſm* give at once entertaining elegance to metapyhſics, and preciſion to criticiſm. His *Sketches of the Hiſtory of Man* teach Society to know itſelf by reviewing its varied character in the different ſtages of its progreſs. His *Culture of the Heart* cannot but repreſent him in the moſt amiable light to thoſe who think, that it was the work of his old age, and that old age is commonly indifferent to all cares, but that of lengthening out the diſcoloured thread of life, and looks with contempt and peeviſhneſs on the feelings of youth and childhood.—Surely, while there are in this country, liberality of ſentiment, and public or private virtue, the memory of ſuch a man cannot ceaſe to be held in veneration!

TURNING northward, you behold the ruins of the famous abbey of *Cambuſkenneth;* the Abbey-craig, a ledge of columnar rocks riſing near the remains of the abbey; the *Ochil* hills extending to the north-eaſt; the opening into *Strathallen;* and beyond, the ſummits of ſome of the loftier hills in *Perthſhire*. But, the eye is moſt delighted to trace the winding progreſs of the *Forth*, where it advances towards

towards the Frith. It ſeems to linger fondly in the fine vale immediately below Stirling; meandering in its courſe, with ſo many turnings and windings, that,—to ſail down the river to *Alloa*, on the oppoſite ſide, is a paſſage of twenty, I think, or four and twenty miles; whereas the direct diſtance of the ſame place, by land, is not more than ſix miles. *Stirling* has ſome foreign and coaſting trade, and veſſels of more or leſs burthen, come up the *Forth*, almoſt cloſe to this city. Theſe alſo join to make the ſcene more intereſting. And ſtill as the eye extends its view down the river, towards the verge of the horizon, the proſpect is richer, more animated, and more beautiful. To particularize the numerous objects which enter into it,—were an endleſs taſk. —In the times when this country was frequently ravaged either, in conſequence of feuds amoi g its native inhabitants, or by the incurſions of enemies; the peaſantry of the circumjacent country depended for their protection, upon the Governor or Conſtable, and the garriſon of Stirling caſtle. For this protection, they paid a certain annual tax. They no longer have occaſion to flee within the bounds of the Caſtle, or to call upon the garriſon for their defence: but, the tax or duty continues ſtill, agreeably to the ordinary laws of inheritance, to be levied; and ſerves as a memorial of the unſettled manners, and the inſecure condition of our anceſtors.

I HAVE already mentioned that Stirling has ſome trade. It has alſo ſome riſing manufactures; and I ſee nothing in its circumſtances that does not promiſe to promote the advancement both of its induſtry and its trade. It will be better, however, for the country, that ſuch cities as *Stirling* do not increaſe conſiderably in ſize, but villages be ſcattered through their environs. As a garriſoned town; Stirling is well ſituate,—nearly in the middle of the way between Edinburgh and Glaſgow, yet not too far from Perth and Dundee. It is ſituate, too, ſo as to command one of the eaſieſt and moſt natural lines of communication between the Highlands and the Lowlands of Scotland. Here was once, if I be rightly informed, a conſiderable manufacture of tartans for the uſe of the Highlanders: I am not ſure whether blue bonnets have ever been wrought here. I have already mentioned, that the weſtern Highlanders receive from the neighbourhood of Stirling, large ſupplies of whiſky.---The church is an ancient Cathedral, diveſted of its original ſplendour. Wheat, barley, and oats are the grains raiſed in the carſe of Stirling.

FROM Stirling, I continued my journey up Strathallan to Dumblane. This ſtrath divided by the river Allan, is through the greater part of its extent, rich and cultivated. Here and there are gentlemen's houſes, with clumps of wood, ſeated on the ſides of the

the riſing hills. The houſes of more than one gentleman or the name of Stirling were pointed out to me. The Allan is not a large river; but its banks are not unintereſting.

I REACHED *Dumblane* in the evening. It was the ſeat of a Biſhop, in the Popiſh and Epiſcopal days of Scotland. It is an inconſiderable town; with little trade or induſtry; and exhibiting ſome ruinous monuments of its ancient ſplendour. A good inn has been not many years ſince eſtabliſhed here. It is kept by people whoſe civility is very agreeable to the traveller. The cathedral of Dumblane is not yet entirely dilapidated. The Biſhop's palace is alſo to be ſeen. Several of the nobility had formerly houſes here. Being ſo near Stirling; Dumblane was a ſituation from which they could readily enough repair to the court at Stirling, and where they might yet live remote from *its* confuſion and buſtle. The diſtance between Stirling and Dumblane is only ſix miles. Here is a manufacture of ſome coarſe woollen ſtuffs, which are uſually expoſed to ſale at Perth, on Tueſdays and Fridays. The extent of Perthſhire renders it neceſſary that the Sherriff-Depute of this ſhire have a Subſtitute in Dumblane, as well as at Perth. North-eaſt from Dumblane is *Inchaffray* where was anciently an abbey; and where there is at preſent a library for the uſe

of

of the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, eſtabliſhed and ſupported upon a foundation which I cannot at preſent refer to its proper author. Crieff, another town of conſiderable antiquity, ſtands in the ſame neighbourhood. Many handſome gentleman's ſeats are ſcattered through this tract of country. Near *Crieff* have the people of the neighbourhood been by ſome means perſuaded that the bones of Oſſian were entombed. I ſhould be glad to know at what particular period this tradition took its riſe.

From Dumblane I ſet out on a froſty morning for Perth. The country began now to appear wilder around me. The corn was ſtill to be ſeen here and there, in the fields. The agriculture ſeems to be more imperfect than in Stirlingſhire. The fields are incloſed with dry ſtone walls. And on either hand, bleak hills fill up the back-ground. They are the Ochill-hills which intervene between this part of Strathallan and the *Forth*. And, on the north-ſide of the moſt weſtern of theſe hills is *Sheriff-muir* the celebrated field of a battle in which the Royal Forces, commanded by John, Duke of Argyle, obtained a dubious victory over the rebels, in the rebellion of the year 1715.

As we rode on into the upper part of Strathern, we came within ſight of Ardoch, the celebrated

ſcene of an encampment where Agricola remained for a winter, with his forces, when he puſhed the Roman conqueſts through North Britain. As Ardoch has already been accurately deſcribed, and its hiſtory illuſtrated by a variety of writers; I ſhall not here repeat what they have ſaid. The Roman remains are carefully preſerved by Sir William Stirling of Ardoch. The houſes of *Bruce*, and of *Arthul-Græme* are ſeen within the ſame landſcape as Ardoch.

SOME of the eſtates in upper Strathern, through which we now paſſed, had been, in conſequence of forfeiture, under the management of the Truſtees for Fiſheries, Improvements, &c. By their care, plantations of trees were ſcattered over them: *Invalid* ſoldiers were ſettled in various parts: and every rational expedient was tried, to render thoſe eſtates more valuable to the community, than they had before been. Some of the means uſed, were ſucceſsful. Others failed of ſucceſs. The plantations now adorn the eſtates on which they have been formed. The old ſoldiers proved moſtly incapable of the ſober habits and of the regular induſtry of huſbandmen, after the diſſipation and idleneſs of the military life. The forfeited eſtates have been ſince reſtored to their original proprietors. And I ſhould ſuppoſe that the poſſeſſors muſt be ready to acknowledge

ledge, that they could not have been more judiciouſly improved, if they had never been in other hands than their own.

As we approached *Auchterarder*, we paſſed through the village of *Blackford*, which with *Auchterarder*, and other places in this neighbourhood was burnt down in the rebellion of 1715, to deprive the Royal Forces of a convenient poſt which theſe places might have otherwiſe afforded them. The ſeat of *Haldane* of *Gleneagle*, an ancient and reſpectable family, was ſeen in a glen extending ſouthward among the Ochil hills. We ſaw alſo the old caſtle of *Kingcairn*, the ancient ſeat of the Ducal family of Montroſe; which was ruined, I think, by the *Campbells* in the laſt century, when the crafty Earl of *Argyle* and the gallant and loyal Marquis of *Montroſe* mutually ruined each other's vaſſals, and laid each the other's Eſtates waſte.

We breakfaſted at an incommodious and dirty inn in *Auchterarder*. This is a large, ſtraggling village: ſituate in Upper Strathern, juſt where it begins to ſhew its moſt fertile ſoil and moſt judicious agriculture. Auchterarder was burnt with Blackford, as above-mentioned. Such accidents have contributed greatly to beautify and enlarge ſome of the principal cities in Europe. But whe-

ther Auchterarder may have been a gainer in the ſame manner, I know not. I doubt not, but that as cultivation ſpreads more entirely over Strathern, Auchterarder may become yet more conſiderable. I have, in the narrative of ſome late traveller, ſeen the Clergy of the Preſbytery of Auchterarder repreſented as remarkable for prieſtly prejudices, for ſour auſterity of manners, and for the eager ſeverity with which they are ever ready to enforce eccleſiaſtical diſcipline. But, I have not learned, that the clergy of this diſtrict are leſs enlightened or leſs liberal in their ſentiments than thoſe of Scotland in general. The morals and manners of the clergy cannot well be too pure or auſtere, unleſs they be ſuch as to withdraw them from ſociety which is the proper ſphere of their uſefulneſs, or to drive ſociety from about them. The Church of Scotland has too little power of puniſhment left in its hands, to be capable of inflicting any conſiderable diſtreſs on thoſe liable to its cenſures, even by the utmoſt ſeverity in which theſe can be pronounced. I would therefore willingly perſuade myſelf, that the accuſation at which I have hinted, has been too haſtily brought againſt the Preſbytery of Auchterarder: and would wiſh that, if cenſures muſt be dropped againſt any of theſe things, we ſhould rather cenſure the prevalent relaxation,—than the ſeverity of Eccleſiaſtical Diſcipline.

As we continued our journey from Auchterarder, onwards to Perth, the country ſeemed to improve before us. A larger proportion of the vale was cultivated. That cultivation ſeemed to become more and more ornamental. The farm-houſes were more ſnug and decent. And the barnyards better filled. We paſſed by *Brevan*, where is the burial-place of the Dukes of Montroſe; a monument of their former reſidence in Strathern. On the northern hills which cover this rich vale appeared ſeveral handſome houſes. In the vale, not far above the bridge of Dalreoch, is the old caſtle of *Gaſk*; and not far diſtant the modern houſe, the ſeat of Mr Oliphant of Gaſk. The *Oliphants* were anciently a great family in theſe parts: *Dupplin*-Caſtle was the principal ſeat of the Lord Oliphant.—The roads were every where, as we proceeded, deep and miry: qualities which they owed not more to the lateneſs of the Seaſon, than to the depth and richneſs of the ſoil. A Roman road is ſtill to be traced along this tract, from Ardoch, onwards to the vicinity of Perth.

PASSING over the Erne by Dalreoch Bridge, the highway conducted us in a north-eaſt direction, up a hill, towards Dupplin. The high-lying flat which ſeems to have been the ſcene of the famous battle of *Dupplin* unfortunate in its iſſue to the Scots,—is now covered, for the greater part with fine, thriving plantations

plantations of firs. We had ſoon a beautiful view of the Erne and the Tay running into the wide Frith formed by their united waters,—of the coaſts of the ſhires of Angus, Perth, and Fife,—of ſeats of manufactures,—of riſing heights and ſubſiding vales,—of a noble city,—of villages,—and of elegant ſeats of gentlemen and noblemen,—the moſt intereſting ſeries of objects, all together, that the eye can well behold, in one landſcape. Theſe I had before ſeen, but not from the ſame point of view, nor, although in a fairer ſeaſon, to the ſame advantage. Perth aroſe to the view ſuddenly, and with an agreeably ſtriking effect. As we drew near, I recognized the ſcenery which I had not long before ſurveyed with delight, and with minute examination.

PERTH, SCONE, and to EDINBURGH, by KINGHORN.

PERTH had been a ſcene of feſtivity, ſince I had been laſt in it. The annual races had been celebrated: and balls and carouſals had accompanied the races. Some riſing riots had been eaſily quieted by the prudence of the magiſtrates, and of the gentlemen whoſe preſence ſeemed to provoke them,—and, it is but fair to add,—through the good temper and good ſenſe of the People in general. The feſtivities of the occaſion went on, uninterrupted: and

had

had been terminated in general harmony among all who had aſſiſted in them.

To what I have formerly ſaid concerning the hiſtory and circumſtances of Perth, I ſhall not here make any additions. But, having in my former volume neglected to ſay any thing of *Scone*; although I had not neglected either to viſit it or to make ſome enquiries into its hiſtory; I ſhould be inexcuſable to paſs it unnoticed. Before the foundation of the abbey of Scone; this ſeems to have been a ſeat of the Pictiſh monarchs. The Culdee Clergy, the diſciples of St Columba, ſeem to have had an eſtabliſhment here in thoſe early times. It was not till after the union of the Scots and Picts under the ſame monarch, that the Clergy of the Communion of the Church of Rome obtained an eſtabliſhment in Scotland, and here, as elſewhere, ſupplanted the Culdees. In conſequence of this event, an abbey was founded here for Regular Clergy of the Romiſh Communion, by Alexander the Firſt, in the beginning of the twelfth century. The Royal Palace ſtill ſtanding, ſeems to have been of almoſt as early origin, but has been altered, repaired and enlarged by the care of ſucceſſive monarchs. The paſſages, the narrow, arch-roofed gallery, the carvings, the gildings, the paintings, the bas-reliefs, the antique form and furniture, and the awkward

awkward diſpoſition of the rooms, all beſpeak the antiquity of the preſent palace of *Scone*. Here uſed the Courts of our Scottiſh monarchs to reſide occaſionally, till their acceſſion to the Engliſh throne. This palace was viſited by Charles the Firſt; and here was Charles the Second crowned; as had been his Royal Anceſtors, through a long ſeries of ſucceſſions. From Scone, Edward the Firſt carried away to England, ſome of the moſt valuable monuments of the ancient honours of Scotland. Antiquarian curioſity may yet diſcover here many remains referable to important periods and tranſactions in our hiſtory. The *Mutehill* of Scone is ſaid to have been formed of parcels of earth brought hither from the eſtates of all the Scottiſh Barons, at the Coronation of Robert Bruce, and accumulated here, before the Sovereign, in teſtimony of homage to him. The ſtone chair in which the Scottiſh monarchs uſed to ſit, while they were crowned, was carried by Edward to Weſtminſter; where it is ſtill ſhewn as a curioſity. The abbey was burnt down, at the period of the Reformation, by the zeal of the New Converts aſſembled in Perth. The Convent was diſſolved: And the endowments of the Foundation erected into a temporal Lordſhip by King James the Sixth, in favour of Sir David Murray of Goſpetrie. His deſcendents have continued to enjoy his eſtates and honours, and have augmented

mented both. The late Earl Mansfield was a younger ſon of this family. He has been lately ſucceeded in the Earldom of Mansfield by his nephew, Lord Viſcount Stormont, its hereditary repreſentative, and Heretable Keeper, at the ſame time, of the palace of *Scone*. This palace, like the other old royal palaces of Scotland, had become ruinous; but by the liberal care of the preſent Heretable Keeper, was not many years ſince repaired; yet its antique ornaments not ſpoiled by modernizing embelliſhments.

From PERTH *to* EDINBURGH.

I LEFT Perth on an afternoon, and proceeded acroſs Fifeſhire, to Edinburgh. At the bridge over *Erne* in this road, a cotton-manufacture has begun to be tried, and may probably raiſe a village in a ſituation in which it ſeems ſurpriſing, that a village has not been before this time formed.

As evening came on, a number of fires kindled here and there over the country, for the purpoſe of burning down whins and furze before the plough, —enlivened and illuminated the face of the country. The times are, fortunately, now long paſt, in which ſuch fires would have ſpread the alarm of war.

I TRAVELLED down Erne-ſide, at ſome diſtance ſouth from the river, towards *Abernethy;* the ancient capital of the Pictiſh kingdom. The foundations of the houſes of the ancient town are yet to be traced in the adjacent cornfields. The preſent houſes have the appearance of having been built about the beginning of the preſent century. The only conſiderable monument of the Pictiſh honours of Abernethy, which now remains, is a round tower, in which the town-bell is hung. This round tower has moſt probably been an appendage of a ſacred Pictiſh edifice. Similar towers remain in various other parts of Scotland, and in Ireland. It is the conjecture of an ingenious Antiquary, that theſe were imitated from the ſacred edifices of the eaſt; which in the chriſtian times of of thoſe countries which now groan under the yoke of Mahometiſm, were, upon ſome account or another accommodated with ſimilar towers. Others aſſert that the round towers of Scotland originated with the Picts, and with thoſe coloniſts from the north of the European continent, who, in times prior to date of our earlieſt hiſtorical records, entered Scotland; that, the round form being as natural as the ſquare, thoſe towers were the firſt conſiderable buildings which thoſe rude people attempted; that their form was imitated from that of the denuded trunks of trees,——the only objects of conſiderable

ſtrength

ſtrength and height which thoſe people had occaſion to contemplate; that they were originally intended as places of defence which no enemy might be able to ſcale,—and at the ſame time as watch-towers from the height of which the approach of an enemy might be deſcried: and that in rude ſtate of Pictiſh Architecture, they were naturally added as pieces of ornamental building to the moſt auguſt of the churches built for the followers of St Columba. I preſume not to decide between theſe different opinions.—Abernethy has declined in the courſe of the preſent century. It is now a very inconſiderable village. It is inhabited chiefly by weavers, who work for the manufacturers of Perth, Dundee, and Kirkcaldy. Not far from Abernethy is Newburgh, another manufacturing village, more flouriſhing than Abernethy. Theſe places ſwarm with Seceders, and with Independents of various deſcriptions. Here are Baptiſts among others. An Unitarian Miſſionary coming not long ſince, to propagate his faith in theſe parts, addreſſed himſelf to ſome Baptiſts, who had been for ſome peccadilloes rejected from the ſociety of their brethren, and earneſtly laboured to convert them to Unitarianiſm. They were ſtruck with his preaching, but inſiſted that the converſion ſhould be mutual. The Unitarian Miſſionary was accordingly *dipped;* and the ejected Baptiſts profeſſed themſelves Unitarians.

THE whole of the northern and the north eaſt ſhores of Fife, are covered with villages, with royal burghs, and with ſcenes diſtinguiſhed in the hiſtory of our country. *Lindores* was anciently the ſeat of a convent, and now gives a title to a Scottiſh peer. The life, eſtate, and honours of Lord *Balmerino* were forfeited by the part which he took in the rebellion of 1745. *Cupar* is conſidered as the county town of *Fife*. *St Andrew's* is the famous ſeat of the primate of Scotland from the time when the *Culdee* clergy gave place to the Roman, untill the final abolution of Epiſcopacy in Scotland. Since the inſtitution of the Univerſity of Edinburgh ſo near, that of St Andrews ſeems to have gradually declined, till within the preſent century, when the increaſing population of the country ſeems to co-operate with the learning and abilities of the Profeſſors to reſtore, in a conſiderable degree the literary honours of this ſeminary. Its ſplendid buildings will be leſs eaſily reſtored. The great ſtreet of St Andrew's preſents on either hand a melancholy ſcene of ſtately houſes either falling down and dilapidated, or degraded to meaner purpoſes than thoſe, for which they were originally deſigned. The buildings of its colleges too are greatly decayed; ſome of them ruinous. One of the colleges is wholly deſerted. The remains of the cathedral are ſtately and impreſs the mind with awful ideas of the former religious magni-

ficence

ficence of St Andrew's. The ruins of the Archbiſhop's palace are ſtill conſiderable enough to attract notice. St Andrew's has little trade; little manufacture; and no commodious inn. Yet, its ſituation, its literature, and various other circumſtances about it, are ſuch as might render it an agreeable place of retirement, to a man of a moderate fortune, weary of the great world, yet not willing to bury himſelf in abſolute ſolitude. A few more WATSONS would raiſe its name to eminence in the the republic of letters.

FROM St Andrew's and Fifeneſs, the whole eaſt coaſt of this county—is edged with a range of ſmall burghs, at ſhort intervals from each other. They depend upon the fiſhery, upon a coaſting trade with coals and other products of the county,—and upon ſome manufactures of coarſe linens, and lately of of cottons. They form an excellent *nurſery of ſeamen:* and their municipal privileges beſtowed by James VI. will long remain *a monument of his ſagacity and political diſcernment*—greater both, than they are commonly repreſented to have been.

ALMOST all the intermediate country between Abernethy and the Eaſt Nook of Fife, is cultivated and populous. Near St Andrew's, indeed, the *muir* on which Archbiſhop Sharp was murthered remains

mains wild, unincloſed, and untilled, probably, as at the time when the murder was committed. Diſtilleries, coal-works, various manufactures, are ſcattered over the reſt of this tract. *Auchtermuchty* celebrated in ---perhaps the fineſt comic ballad that was ever written, is a thriving manufacturing town. Checks, and coarſe linens are made in it: the cotton-manufacture was unſucceſsfully tried either in Auchtermuchy, or in its immediate neighbourhood.——The ballad to which I have alluded, is the *Gudewife of Auchtermuchty*. It is a comic paſtoral. The labours, the joys, the griefs of ruſtics are the ſubject. But the indolence which produces diſcontent, is ſo finely marked in the character of the *Gudeman;* the awkwardneſs of ſuch indolence amid taſks to which it is unaccſtoumed; the happier artifices of which woman is capable; and the manners and employments of the peaſantry of Scotland two or three hundred years ago—very little altered even yet in more remote parts of the country, and among the lower peaſantry in Fife—are ſo ſtrikingly delineated, as to make the whole extremely intereſting. Without that play of paſſion, however, which is kept up through the whole,—anxious, yet without any preſſure of ſerious misfortune---its other merits would be inſufficient to render this fine ballad ſo intereſting as it is univerſally allowed to be.——

It was on a former occaſion, that I had travelled round the north-eaſt, and the eaſt coaſt of Fife. At this time, I turned acroſs the country up the glen of Abernethy. It was night, when I entered the northern end of this glen: It is long and dreary; and the road imperfectly made. The fancy of the neighbouring peaſantry has peopled it with ghoſts, witches, fairies; and it has indeed very much the air of having been prepared for the reception of ſuch nocturnal aſſemblies. I travelled on, however, not without feeling my ſpirits affected with ſolemn and awful impreſſions. Having ſo often travelled, in the courſe of this excurſion, under the darkneſs of night; I ſhould ſurely have met with ſome ghoſts or devils,—or ſhould have ſpied ſome fairy gambols,—or ſhould perhaps have diſcovered the myſteries of ſome nightly aſſembly of witches; if it were true that ſuch beings roam at large, and meet, and conſult, and make merry together by night. But, as neither ghoſts, witches, nor fairies have yet diſcovered themſelves to my obſervation: my experience rather tends to make me ſceptical, if not as to their exiſtence, yet as to the frequency of their interference in the courſe of human affairs. At length, I had paſſed through the glen of Abernethy, and drew near to *Strathmiglo;* a ſmall village, ſeated on the banks of the little river *Miglo.*

At

At Strathmiglo, I found very comfortable entertainment for the night, in *Gardiner's* inn. It is inhabited chiefly by weavers who prepare green linens for the Dundee market. The beſt land in the immediate neighbourhood of Strathmiglo, is let commonly at the rent of from two pounds to three pounds ten ſhillings, an acre. The ſituation of this village is agreeable,---under a hill, and on the ſide of an extenſive and cultivated plain.

From Strathmiglo, I rode on the next morning, to breakfaſt at *Falkland*. Falkland is a ſmall burgh beautifully ſituate under the *Lomond* hills. Here was anciently a ſeat of the Earls of Fife. It became afterwards a hunting-ſeat of the Kings of Scotland. I know not which of the Jameſes it was who built the ſtately palace of which very conſiderable remains ſtill ſtand, incloſed the gardens, and planted the trees which yet give a venerable air to Falkland. This palace, at the time when it was compleated, muſt have afforded accommodation neither incommodious nor inelegant to our Scottiſh monarchs. The ſtyle of the architecture is no unfavourable ſpecimen of the taſte of the times. I wandered among the ruins, gazed on the defaced ornaments, and thought of thoſe times when Scotland had a Court, to encourage the arts, and ſet the faſhion in matters of taſte, and diffuſe civility through the land. Several

veral other old houſes in the town were the habitations of the King's principal ſervants and attendants. To encourage the ſettlement of the neceſſary artiſans here, Falkland was dignified with the honours of a Royal Burgh. But, as the right and the obligation of attendance in Parliament were regarded as a burthenſome ſervice, not as a privilege,—to favour the burgeſſes of Falkland, they were by their prince's kindneſs exempted from all ſervice in Parliament; and they are not now, like other royal burghs directly repreſented. Their burgh-lands are extenſive. The Lomond hills, once covered over with wood, and a royal foreſt, are theirs. Theſe lands form the town-common, which it has been lately propoſed to divide among thoſe who ſhare the uſe of it. But this diviſion of the common has not been agreed to unanimouſly by thoſe concerned; ſo that I know not whether it may take place.—It is to be lamented, that when our monarchs left Scotland; their palaces were not either converted to ſome important public uſes, or, if granted to Heretable Keepers, granted under the condition that they ſhould ſtill be furniſhed, inhabited, and from time to time repaired as they ſuffered by the dilapidations of time.

From Falkland, I continued my journey through a country, on all hands rich, fertile, and populous:

abounding in coal-works, and in manufactures—chiefly of coarſe linens. The grounds round the houſe of *Balbirnie* are laid out in a good taſte; Some pleaſing walks are ſeen from the highway, to wind through the woods. The village of *Markinch* too is ſeen on one hand, that of *Leſly* on another, as one advances.

At length, I drew near to Kirkcaldy, an ancient and not inconſiderable burgh. The villages of *Galla-ton* and *Path-head*, lengthen it out to a great extent. It was a flouriſhing ſea-port town in thoſe times when the Scots enriched themſelves by their fiſheries. Coals are now exported in large quantities from Kirkcaldy, and the neighbouring but ſmaller burgh of *Dyſart*. Kirkcaldy has alſo ſome trade to the *Baltic*, and to the *Weſt Indies*. Checks have been long manufactured here in large quantities. To this manufacture, that of cotton ſtuffs has been lately added. Both the trade and the manufactures of Kirkcaldy are thriving; and their proſperity is accompanied with a proportionate increaſe of the population, and extenſion of the buildings of the town. Near *Kircaldy* ſtands the houſe of *Dunikeir*, the elegant ſeat of Mr Oſwald. From Kirkcaldy, the diſtance is ſhort to *Kinghorn*. On either ſide of the highway ſtand ſeveral old buildings; ſome yet inhabited, others ruinous and deſolate. I believe

believe ſome one or other of theſe houſes to have belonged to the famous *Kirkcaldy* of *Grange*. I know not whether it be that which ſtill bears the name of of *King's Grange*. *Kirkcaldy* was certainly one of the moſt energetic and heroic characters that Scotland has yet produced.

Kinghorn has, like Kirkcaldy, ſome manufactures; and the other principal employment of its inhabitants, is a ſeafaring life. It is a royal burgh; and its burgeſſes no doubt derive ſome advantages from their ſhare in the election of a member of Parliament. The town is a nurſery for ſeamen, and a place of retreat for them in advanced age. It derives ſome advantages too from the *Ferry* by which paſſengers are conveyed from the harbour of *Petty cur*,---which was formed at the expence of the burgh of *Kinghorn*,---to *Leith*. After a tedious paſſage, prolonged by the boiſterouſneſs of the wind, and the conſequent roughneſs of the ſea in the Frith, I landed at Leith, on the afternoon of the day on which I had left *Strathmiglo*,——and in the middle of November.

EDINBURGH.

WISHING theſe *Obſervations* to afford a ſort of ſketch of the preſent ſtate of Society in SCOTLAND;

I cannot conclude them, without adding a few things concerning *Edinburgh*, its capital. The antiquities of Edinburgh are well explained in *Maitland's Hiſtory of Edinburgh:* In *Arnot's*, theſe are connected with the national hiſtory, and the progreſs of the city ably deduced to the period, when Arnot wrote: In ſome lively, and elegant letters lately addreſſed by *Mr Creech* to *Sir John Sinclair*, and publiſhed in a volume of the *Statiſtical Account of Scotland*, a very curious compariſon is inſtituted between the ſtate of Arts and Manners in *Edinburgh*, ---reſpectively in the years 1763---and 1783, and proſecuted through a great number of intereſting and authentic particulars. I ſhall therefore only ſet down here a very few general facts,---which form together a ſort of miniature view of the firſt city in Scotland; not preſuming to detail at length what has been already given to the Public, in works deſervedly much more popular, than any thing that I can produce is ever likely to be.

EDINDURGH moſt probably owes its origin to the Anglo-Saxons of Northumberland. It may have derived its name from *Edwin*, the ſixth ſovereign of *Bernicia;* who extended the limits of the Anglo-Saxon territories farther than had been done by any of his predeceſſors; through *Galloway*, *Ayrſhire*, he *Weſtern* iſles, and part of *Argyleſhire*,——

and

and on the other ſide, at leaſt to the banks of the *Forth*, and almoſt to the *Frith* of *Clyde*.

THE ſituation of the rock on which the caſtle of Edinburgh ſtands,---upon the ſea-ſhore, and at the ſame time in the vicinity of a great river which forms one of the boundaries of the ancient *Caledonia*,---was ſuch, as to recommend it early as a fit ſtation for a military Strength. Having been advantageouſly occupied as ſuch, for ſome time, during the contentions of the Anglo-Saxons, with the Picts and Scots; theſe latter people eagerly fortified it for themſelves, when they ſucceeded in driving the Anglo-Saxons ſouthward.

A FORTRESS of ſuch importance was not to be ſlenderly garriſoned. In times of ſuch continual hoſtility, the helpleſs and the unarmed reſorted to the ſecurity of an inacceſſible rock, and the protection of a garriſon. Whether the *Danes* landing in the frith, ravaged and plundered the coaſts; or the *Saxons* made an occaſional inroad into territories which they had once poſſeſſed: Edinburgh-Caſtle was ſtill a temporary retreat to the weakneſs of the Scots, if they were overpowered; or a ſtation from which they could watch the advancing enemy, and ſally out, to oppoſe their progreſs.

AT

At length, when the princes of *Galloway* were ſubjected, the Engliſh territories confined within the northern boundaries of the preſent *Cumberland* and *Northmberland*, and almoſt all the Roman province of *Valentia* added to the ancient *Caledonia;* the Scottiſh monarchs were induced to bring their court ſouth-ward, and to fix their reſidence occaſionally at Edinburgh. Here they could, more conveniently than in any more northern or weſtern ſituation, watch the motions of their moſt formidable neighbour, to whoſe invaſion, they were moſt expoſed. And this ſituation was more favourable to their correſpondence with Foreign Courts, than any of the others which they had been accuſtomed to occupy.

The neighbourhood of one of the ſtrongeſt and moſt conſiderable caſtles in the kingdom, occaſionally honoured with the preſence of the court, could not be long without an *Eſtabliſhment of the Clergy*. The abbey of *Halyrude*---houſe was formed. Chapels, and other convents ſprung up after it.

Almost all thoſe places to which *municipal* privileges were imparted, at the æra of the riſe of commerical and mechanical induſtry in Europe, had previouſly begun to attract an aſſemblage of inhabitants from the adjacent parts,---either by the natural or the accidental advantages of their ſituation. Protected

tected by its caſtle, and conſecrated by the ſanctity of religion; Edinburgh muſt have appeared worthy of municipal honours, even if it had not been ſo happily ſituate near the mouth of a great river, and in the moſt fertile part of the kingdom, or had not been diſtinguiſhed by the occaſional preſence of the court.

STILL, as the Scottiſh Court became more refined, Edinburgh became more and more its favourite ſeat. In the reigns of the Jameſes, it became a conſiderable city. Its other advantages had already given it ſome ſhare of trade and induſtry. The frequent preſence of the court contributed to enrich it with wealth from all the reſt of the kingdom. Many of the nobility built themſelves houſes in it. By means of their harbour of Leith, its citizens ſhared in the profits of the fiſhery by which Scotland was once greatly enriched. The Monks ſpent here in luxury, the income of the large poſſeſſions which they had acquired in different parts of the kingdom. Such was Edinburgh in the days of James IV. and his ſon James V.---The court of the latter of theſe princes was a gay one. It was compoſed chiefly of young nobles whoſe fathers had periſhed on the unfortunate field of *Flowden*. Among theſe, and the inferior attendants on the court, were many Wits and Poets. Sir *David Lindſay* was the monarch's preceptor,

tor, *Dunbar*, *Stewart*, *Kennedy*, and others who cultivated poetry, were followers of his court. *Gawin Douglas* went in exile, into England, in conſequence of the diſturbances which took place in his minority.

THE circumſtances which firſt enabled Edinburgh to eclipſe the other chief cities of Scotland, were the permanent eſtabliſhment of the King's courts of Juſtice and Revenue, in it,---and after ſome time, alſo, of the High Court of Parliament. In the Regency of of Mary of Guiſe, *Leith* was already a conſiderable place. Had her daughter *Mary* lived to enjoy her kingdom for a length of years; it ſeems probable, that Edinburgh might have flouriſhed and advanced rapidly under her patronage.

YET, perhaps the exertions of the lower orders of the people in accompliſhing the Reformation, and that conſcious energy, which was rouſed into action among them by the troubles which followed, might contribute more than almoſt any other circumſtances could, to the ſubſequent proſperity of the Free Towns of Scotland. The turbulence of the citizens of Edinburgh prompted by their clergy, gave no ſmall trouble to James VI. The proſperity of the Town ſeems to have ſuffered a temporary check by the vengeance which he exacted for the

inſults

inſults which they had offered him.—The PEOPLE of Scotland, with a Clergy at their head who gloried equally in poverty and in power, ſtood, at this period, in a great meaſure, independent of both the King and the Nobles. Sometimes they were emuloufly courted by the one of theſe, in oppoſition to the other, and at times, both united to ſoothe, or to repreſs them.

I AM rather inclined to think, that Edinburgh loſt little by the departure of James with his court to England. It loſt indeed, by this event, the preſence of the court, and by conſequence thoſe peculiar advantages by which Refinement of Arts and of Manners is promoted by a court. But, it became now the fixed ſeat of the Government, and the Supreme Courts of Juſtice, more excluſively than it had before been. The intercourſe between London and Edinburgh was leſs inconvenient, than if any other of the principal cities of Scotland had been preferred for the ſeat of Government.

I AM here tempted to leave, for a few moments, the review of the progreſs of Edinburgh, that I may expoſe the futility of a prevalent opinion concerning the influence which the removal of the court to England, is ſuppoſed to have had on our language. The Scottiſh dialect of the Saxon is ob-

ſerved to have been, at the æra of that event, not leſs copious or analogical than the Engliſh; and it is inferred, that if Scotland had continued to have a ſeparate court, it muſt have had a ſtandard of analogy and phraſeology peculiar to itſelf, and not leſs perfect than that of England. But, this opinion has been too haſtily taken up. The two dialects were, even at that period, *too much the ſame*, not to be conſidered *as one language*. Conſidered as one language, they muſt have been both reduced to the ſame ſtandard of Grammar; when Grammatical Science began to be applied to them. That which was moſt copious, moſt elegant, moſt analogical, would be the Language; the other ſimply the Dialect. Had there been originally a more marked diſtinction between them; they might have become different Languages. But, while ſo *eſſentially* the ſame; the moſt imperfect could never have been otherwiſe regarded than as the baſtard-brother of the other.

It is eaſy to ſee, that the progreſs of languages muſt ever follow that of Refinement, of Opulence, of Knowledge, of the Polite Arts. The wider extent of the Engliſh dominions, and the greater wealth of the Engliſh muſt neceſſarily have continued to render the Engliſh court more ſplendid than the Scottiſh. In all the ſeats of trade and art, ſimilar

effects

effects muſt have been produced. Thus would the arts have advanced more rapidly in England than in Scotland. Art ſtrikes out thoſe ſcintillations which kindle up the light of ſcience. Taſte next appears. As the accommodations of life were multiplied; as new abſtractions were conceived; as more of the relations of things were diſcovered; the copiouſneſs of the language would, in proportion, have increaſed. As taſte was refined; its analogy would have been reformed. In England, then, the natural courſe of events would have formed a poliſhed, copious, and regular language ſooner than in Scotland; although Scotland had continued the ſeat of a Royal Court. The language of England would have been the *language*, that of Scotland, *the dialect*. The only difference would have been, that we ſhould have had, in the compaſs of this dialect, a ſeries of more courtly phraſeology, than it at preſent poſſeſſes. But, all our writers, aſſoon as it became faſhionable to compoſe in the vernacular language, would aſſuredly have ſtriven to emulate the beſt Engliſh writers, in pure Angliciſm. The Geneveſe do not pique themſelves upon writing a peculiar dialect of the French, but ſtudy the pureſt ſtyle of the Pariſian Academicians. The elegant writers of Italy aſpire to the purity of Tuſcan phraſeology. Nay, even in the reigns of our own *Jameſes*, the Engliſh ſeems to have been conſidered as the

ſtandard language. James I. had been bred at the Engliſh court, and is the only writer of his time, whoſe compoſitions have come down to us; and his ſtyle muſt have been Engliſh. *William Dunbar*, one of the beſt poets in the court of James V. was valued for writing pure *Engliſh*. He was a native of Salton in caſt Lothian; and eſteeming himſelf an Anglo-Saxon by birth, looked with contempt on thoſe who were *born without the Engliſh pale*. He profeſſed to imitate the Engliſh poets *Chaucer*, *Gower*, and *Lydgate*; in apoſtrophe to the former of whom he ſays:

Was thou nocht of our Inglis all the licht
Surmounting every toung terreſtrial,
As far as Mayis morrow dois midnicht,

And to the two latter,

Your angelic mouth moſt melliſluat,
Our rude language has cleir illumynat.

Thus it ſurely appears,—at leaſt that the language of England would have been enriched above the copiouſneſs of the Scotch, and would have been ſooner poliſhed and reduced to order; in conſequence of which, it muſt have become the ſtandard language; even although the two kingdoms had continued to be governed by two different monarchs. But, to return from words to things.

After

After Edinburgh had become confeſſedly the capital of the kingdom; it neceſſarily advanced, declined, or remained in a ſtationary condition,—— juſt as Scotland fluctuated between proſperity and ruin. Yet, being the ſeat of the ſanguinary Scottiſh Adminiſtration of *Charles II.* and of *James VII.* it was perhaps enriched by their expences, and enlivened by their gaiety, at a time when deſolation and mourning prevailed through the reſt of the kingdom. That liberty and ſecurity which were reſtored to the whole iſland by the *Revolution*, were happily felt in the capital of Scotland. Edinburgh was the centre from which the reviving ſpirit of Trade and Induſtry continued to ſpread its influence through the kingdom between the two æras of the *Revolution* and the *Union*. The *Canongate* was then in its greateſt ſplendour; its beſt old houſes were, at that time built; and all its avenues extended into the country.

The Union was finally fatal to the courtly ſplendour of Edinburgh. It was now no longer the ſeat of the Legiſlature and Government of Scotland; and was thus degraded into a Provincial Town. Yet the courts of Revenue and of Juſtice ſtill remaining here, rendered Edinburgh ſtill, in ſome meaſure, a common centre of intercourſe for the inhabitants of Scotland. It was ſtill a ſubordinate

dinate ſeat of Government; and as ſuch, had greater intercourſe with England, than any other city in Scotland. The reverence which it had formerly commanded, could not be all at once laid aſide. The accommodations which had been here provided for the noble and the great who were now allured away to England, invited hither, the ſecondary gentry to enjoy, at a cheaper rate, gratifications of ſhew, of dignity, and of ſociety to which they had not before aſpired. Thus Edinburgh yet continued to dictate, in matters of faſhion and of taſte to the reſt of North Britain.

Its citizens, in the mean time, began to open their eyes to the advantages of trade. Their port of *Leith* was favourably enough ſituate for the reception of ſhipping. Their trade had, for a while, been confined chiefly to intercourſe with England, and with the manufacturing and trading ports of Scotland. With France, too, they had formerly maintained a commercial intercourſe. They now began to become acquainted with the trade to the Mediterranean and the Baltic. Although little was at firſt done by them: Yet their efforts were exerted in a direction in which they have ſince proved advantageous and ſucceſsful.

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THE conſequences of the illegal execution of Captain *Porteous* were at firſt hurtful to the progreſs of Edinburgh. The immediate conſequences of the rebellion in 1745 might be at the time rather injurious, but ſeem to have been, in the end, beneficial to it.

THE *Union* began, at length, to prove beneficial to Scotland. The arts and the wealth of England found their way through North Britain. There was every where an evident progreſs of induſtry, of taſte, of liberal knowledge; and a proportionate increaſe of wealth. Theſe were particularly felt in Edinburgh. Its buildings were enlarged; and projects of improvement were conceived.

As the ſeat of the noble, the wealthy, and the luxurious; Edinburgh was naturally a promiſing field for medical practitioners. The eminent phyſicians in Edinburgh joining their exertions to thoſe of the magiſtrates, at length accompliſhed the eſtabliſhment of a medical ſchool, in addition to the other inſtitutions for literary and ſcientific inſtruction in the Univerſity of Edinburgh. This was the firſt proof that Science had begun to advance, in Scotland, with the increaſe of its wealth, and advancing improvement in the arts of life. This medical ſchool was hardly ſooner eſtabliſhed than it began to attract ſtudents, in preference to all the other

other fimilar inftitutions in the other Univerfities of Scotland. *The pool was now troubled.* An impulfe had been given. It was felt through the whole Univerfity. A generous emulation arofe among the different Profeffors; the fecret emotions of which feem to have prompted moft of them to ftrive, who fhould beft diftinguifh himfelf by fcientific difcoveries, by aſſiduous, diligent, and intereſting inſtruction. Students crowded from all quarters, to Edinburgh, rather than to our other Scottifh Univerfities. The fcientific and literary fame of the profeffors fpread into England and over the continent of Europe. Thus was opened one abundant fource of wealth and credit to the city of Edinburgh.

In the mean time, the citizens of our northern metropolis began to conceive new ideas of convenient accommodation in houfes and furniture, and of architectural elegance. Edinburgh had not hitherto had more than one good ſtreet. That was, and ſtill is, a noble one; running between the Caſtle and the abbey of *Halyrude*-houſe; auguſt alike by its length, its breadth, and the awful, but inconvenient height of the houſes on each ſide. Partly the inconvenience of the ground, and in part, the imitation of the *Caſtle*-faſhion, had dictated the plan of the thick walls, the narrow windows, the ceilings, the towering loftineſs of the old buildings

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in Edinburgh. It is a curious fact, for which I know not at preſent, how to account, but undeniably certain, that many of the moſt conſiderable ſeparate buildings erected about Edinburgh, and through the reſt of Scotland,—and I ſuppoſe, alſo in England, in the laſt forty years of the laſt century, and for the firſt twenty of the preſent, bear a remarkable reſemblance to the Mooriſh buildings yet remaining in Spain—*externally only*,—for we have nothing yet to exceed the interior magnificence of the Mooriſh *Alhambra* and *Albayzin* in Granada. The inconveniencies attending the old faſhion of building in Edinburgh were among the chief cauſes of that naſtineſs whoſe reign in the Scottiſh metropolis the Engliſh delighted to celebrate. And, nothing could be more painful to a Scottiſh ear, than to hear the the Engliſh repreſent all Edinburgh, as one temple ſacred to Cloacina. A new town was therefore projected. The North Loch was drained away. A ſtately bridge was reared acroſs its emptied baſon. And whole ſtreets of little palaces were gradually extended in the moſt beautiful order, along its northern ſide. One noble public building, the Infirmary, had been ſome time before erected. It was extended on the ſouth, as well as on the north ſide. And the old houſes began at the ſame time to be pulled down and rebuilt, or at leaſt to be repaired in a newer and more elegant taſte.

It was about the beginning of his preſent Majeſty's reign, that increaſing opulence, and improving taſte began to puſh on the advancement of Edinburgh thus rapidly. The ſight was pleaſing to every Scotchman; for the progreſs of a capital or its decline can never depend on circumſtances merely local; Edinburgh can be improved—only with the improvement of Scotland in general; and when it ſhall again decline, Scotland will moſt probably decline with it.

Since that period, the progreſs of this city has been almoſt inconceivably rapid. Its ſeminaries for education have been multiplied and enlarged. Its public amuſements have been greatly diverſified and increaſed. The whole œconomy of life has, with the middle and the higher ranks, been altered. Many more mercantile houſes have been opened: Many more ſhops have been decked out, to allure the paſſengers in the ſtreets. Building has become a very capital branch of buſineſs. Many branches of manufacture have been attempted which were before unknown in Scotland; and others which had been before tried, have been improved to aſtoniſhing perfection. The number of the inhabitants of Edinburgh, has been proportionately augmented; and their opulence and the productive power of their induſtry have been at the ſame time

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ſo increaſed; that, while the expences of almoſt every individual in every rank, are doubled; the ſtock of all who poſſeſs property is at leaſt one-third greater at an average, than was, fifty years ago, the ſtock of perſons holding reſpectively, in this city, the ſame places in ſociety.

SUCH, as it appears to me, has been the progreſs of the city of Edinburgh. I am ſorry that I have here had room for nothing but an extremely meagre outline of its hiſtory. I ſhall conclude with a very brief ſketch of its preſent ſtate.

I. THE FIRST claſs of circumſtances on which its exiſtence and proſperity appear to depend, are, Its *Municipal Privileges*,—Its *Ancient and Metropolitan Honours*,—*The Quantity of Wealth* which has been, in the courſe of time accumulated here, and which cannot, without almoſt total waſte, be removed,—with the *Local Attachments*,—the *amor patriæ*,—of its citizens, and of ſuch as are bred and educated in it. Theſe are the primary cauſes, on which the exiſtence and proſperity of all cities depend. By the manner and the degree in which they poſſeſs theſe, are their ſplendour and ſtability moſt ſurely to be eſtimated. In its *municipal privileges* I know not that it enjoys any advantages over the other royal burghs of Scotland. By the proſperity, however, which it has enjoyed

under theſe. whenever their influence was not counteracted by circumſtances, not neceſſarily connected with them;—The Conſtitution of our Royal Burghs appears to be well calculated to promote Trade and the Arts in all their various modifications; and to give dignity and comfort to thoſe employed in the proſecution of them. To poſſeſs revenues, as a corporate body; To have for Adminiſtrators and Governors, magiſtrates choſen from among themſelves; To have a ſhare in the election of the members of the Legiſlature; To enjoy thoſe excluſive advantages of Trade, the conferring of which was originally neceſſary for the encouragement of the arts, and which as they are now communicated for money, conſtitute a fund for the uſe of the community:—Theſe are the chief municipal privileges of our Royal Burghs. All theſe Edinburgh at preſent poſſeſſes in their full force; and from every one of them appears to derive nothing but advantages. Its ſources of Revenue are largely productive. The Revenue, in the adminiſtration of it, is directed, with wiſdom and integrity univerſally acknowledged and applauded,—to the advancement of the common intereſts of the city. Nor are the Magiſtracy leſs honourably and popularly diſtinguiſhed as Inſpectors of the police and Diſtributors of juſtice. Look back for almoſt any length of years; and you will find that the chief magiſtrates nearly without exception

exception, have diſtinguiſhed themſelves by a degree of Enlightened Public Spirit, ſuch as you will not eaſily find to have been ſo uniformly exhibited by any other ſeries, ſo long, of Public Office-Bearers. Of late, eſpecially, every ſucceſſive Chief Magiſtrate ſeems with generous emulation to ſtrive to make his name eminent by accompliſhing ſome Public Work which may be permanently beneficial to the city.—The *ancient* and *metropolitan* honours of Edinburgh are alſo conſiderable; Its name is connected with the memory of many of the moſt remarkable events in our hiſtory: Within its limits, or in its immediate vicinity are the ſcenes of many memorable tranſactions: Its caſtle, its churches, its hoſpitals, its palaces are, moſt of them dignified by relations to the national hiſtory: And as Scotland becomes every day more civilized, more wealthy, more populous, in the ſame proportion muſt its *metropolis* become more illuſtrious: Even at preſent, it is diſtinguiſhed among the ſecondary capitals of Europe. Theſe circumſtances draw, upon it, in ſuch a degree, the reſpect of mankind, that they, in this way contribute greatly to the ſtability of its exiſtence.—The *Quantity of Wealth* accumulated here, conſiſts in houſes, furniture, gardens, public-works, &c. Theſe are all of ſuch a nature, that they cannot be removed, without entire waſte. They muſt therefore remain and be uſed where they are placed; thus

thus ſerving as pledges by which the enjoyments and exertions of the citizens are attached to the fate of the city. Theſe are all as valuable as they well can be, in a city not more extenſive; they are more gainful to their proprietors, for the greater part, than they could be, in any other city of Scotland: and they could hardly be all together better adapted for the accommodation of life.—— The *Local Attachments*, depending upon theſe, and upon all thoſe other circumſtances which are connected in forming the character and in maintaining the exiſtence of the city, are ſtronger, I would willingly hope, in the minds of the citizens of Edinburgh, than with the inhabitants of many other great cities. But, in truth, a city-life is unfavourable beyond any thing elſe, except perhaps unprincipled profligacy, to local attachments, and to the *amor patriæ*.

II. THE SECOND cauſe on which the exiſtence and proſperity of Edinburgh appear to depend, and by which its character is formed,—is, its being the Seat of the Supreme *Courts* of *Revenue*, and of *Juſtice* for Scotland: The Courts of Seſſion, and of Exchequer; the Boards of Cuſtoms, of Exciſe, and of Truſtees for Improvements, &c.—and beſides theſe, the general Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland. Thus a great part of the expence by which Government

Government ſupports thoſe Eſtabliſhments is laid out here: Much wealth is brought into Edinburgh by thoſe who reſor thither to attend theſe Courts and public Offices: All the claſſes of practitioners and candidates for practice in the law are attracted hither: and the ſpoils of the whole country are poured into their hands, as expences of litigation. All theſe ſources of wealth and population ſupply both at preſent, to this city more copiouſly than at any former period. The public Revenue is increaſed, and with it the expences of managing its collection, by the general increaſe of induſtry, trade, and opulence through Scotland. As to the Courts of Law; theſe are very perfect *thermometers* of the ſtate of the country; and by the proportion of the buſineſs before them; the wealth and induſtry of the whole kingdom may be at all times correctly eſtimated: For, men's diſpoſition to contention at law, is, in the ordinary ſtate of human virtue, in the compound ratio of their wealth and their activity in buſineſs. Now, ſince Scotland has for theſe many years been rapidly increaſing in wealth, in induſtry, and in trade: the buſineſs before the Courts of Law, the profits of the lawyers, and their numbers have neceſſarily been increaſed at the ſame time. Lawyers therefore, of all denominations, were never more numerous, and never drew ſo much wealth, as at preſent, from all quarters of the country, into Edinburgh.

III.

III. The Trade and Manufactures of Edinburgh, are, what it ſeems, next, to depend chiefly upon. In theſe, it has long been advancing, but was never ſo flouriſhing as at preſent. The moſt conſiderable branch of its trade, is that *retail-trade* which it poſſeſſes as the ſeat of faſhion, and the common centre of intercourſe for Scotland. Hence thoſe ſplendid ſhops which line its ſtreets. Hence is it, that many of its richeſt and moſt reſpectable citizens are ſimply ſhopkeepers. What vaſt quantities of cottons, of linens, of ſilks, of woollen-ſtuffs are retailed here! What abundance of liquors, and of grocery goods of all kinds! Building has become a capital branch of trade and induſtry, and promiſes, as it ſhould ſeem, to be an unfailing one. The cabinet-maker earns very large ſums. The taylor is among the moſt conſiderable gainers.—The materials for this retail-trade are ſupplied by a very large importation. From the circumjacent country are brought grain, whiſkey, ſheep, beeves, ſwine, poultry, wild-fowl, fiſh, cheeſe, butter, milk, eggs, and indeed all articles of freſh proviſions, with a heterogeneous variety of other things which it would be difficult accurately to enumerate; Yet, one other conſiderable ſet of articles which the neighbourhood affords, are, the ruder materials for building. From England come an innumerable variety of articles, partly its raw produce, partly of its manu-

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factures, and in part imported by the Engliſh from Foreign Countries. Happily we can now provide muſlins for our own uſe. But, a large quantity of Iriſh Linens are ſtill annually imported into Edinburgh. From France, many articles of the conſumpt of our metropolis have, till very lately, been directly imported. Timber, iron, leather, and coarſe linens are brought hither from Ruſſia. From the countries on the Mediterranean, too, are large imports brought into the port of Leith. For our Weſt India goods we begin to be leſs dependent, than we once were on Glaſgow and on London. If the exports from Edinburgh and Leith be ſmall in compariſon with the imports; it is to be remembered that the imports are not conſumed in Edinburgh, but are circulated through all Scotland; and that therefore they muſt be conſidered as anſwering to a part of thoſe exports which we ſend out from the other parts of Scotland.—This trade is accompanied with the uſual ſubdiviſions of Trade and Manufacture, which the commercial Philoſophers have ſhewn to contribute in the moſt powerful manner, to the improvement of both: Here are bankers, inſurers, brokers. Here are two Banking Companies who have been incorporated by Royal Charters; and the ſtock of both is now valued at a very high rate per cent. *Leith* being the port of Edinburgh, a great ſhare of the wholeſale, mercantile buſineſs of

Edinburgh is conducted at Leith. One of the moſt capital of all the manufactures of this place, is, that of glaſs at Leith. Thus, a great trade, in one form or another, is carried on at Edinburgh. It ſeems not to decreaſe, but to be daily enlarged; and affords much to maintain and to augment the wealth and population of this city—The late check which it ſuffered, was,—to uſe a homely ſimilitude,—juſt as when a horſe, walking careleſsly, happens to ſtumble; he inſtantly recovers himſelf; and then proceeds with quicker and firmer ſteps than before.

IV. The next thing of importance to the proſperity of this city, is, its INSTITUTIONS FOR EDUCATION. The Univerſity not only contributes greatly to give a liberal enlightened tone to the opinions and manners of the inhabitants of Edinburgh in general: It is alſo a ſource of no inconſiderable income to them; and it ſeems to reflect on the city perhaps little leſs glory than all its civil, its martial, and its political honours. It was as a medical School, that the Univerſity of Edinburgh firſt became famous; and this, I think, within theſe laſt fifty years. Since that period, a ſecond ſucceſſion of eminent Medical Teachers have ſucceeded thoſe who firſt gained to Edinburgh the character of an excellent medical ſchool. Theſe have ſurpaſſed the fame of their predeceſſors. The eſtabliſhment has alſo been enlarged by

by the inſtitution of new profeſſorſhips. The Infirmary has proved an excellent theatre for medical, but more eſpecially for ſurgical practice. Many new diſcoveries in the ſcience of medicine have been made here. Various theories have alſo been produced, which, if not more ſuſceptible of ſatisfactory demonſtration, than thoſe which were exploded to make room for them, have at leaſt diſplayed higher beauty and ingenuity. In the conſtruction of theſe theories, however, many valuable, ſubordinate truths have been aſcertained, which might otherwiſe have remained doubtful or unknown. Concerning the STRUCTURE and OECONOMY of the Human BODY, as of the Human MIND, the MOST GENERAL TRUTHS remain yet to be diſcovered. But, I doubt not that, in the progreſs of Science, the *Ultimate* truths which reſpect both, will be fully inveſtigated and eſtabliſhed; that Medicine will no longer fluctuate from theory to theory, but will be ſettled on the ſure baſis of General Principles. How would *Galen* be aſtoniſhed were he to attend a courſe of MONRO's Lectures and Demonſtrations; to ſee ſo many of the finer parts of the human frame diſplayed, which his diſſection could not diſtinguiſh; ſo many beautiful relations, nice connexions, and ſtrong dependencies explained, where he could ſee nothing but confuſion and diſorder, almoſt ſufficient to urge him into Atheiſm! How would the arrogant vanity of *Para-*

celsus be confounded, could he hear the scientific Lectures, could he assist at the experiments, could he learn the discoveries and inventions of BLACK! How would his self-sufficiency be abased, before the modest dignity of Science! Chemistry is no longer the mere *labour* of the Mechanic, the *dream* of the Enthusiast, the *pretence* of the Empiric; but the most exalted and comprehensive of Sciences! Would not *Hippocrates* himself respect that astonishingly accurate and extensive knowledge of the habits of the human Body, of the influences to which it is subject, and of the modifications of Disease, infinitely varied as they are, in all its different stages,—which is unfolded in the works of CULLEN, and in the Lectures of a GREGORY and a DUNCAN! The fame of Edinburgh, as a school for medicine is every year extended, and on each successive year, unless when some extraordinary circumstances, such as a war, arise to prevent it, increasing numbers of Students come hither to study Medicine!———

NOR is it for *Medicine* alone that this University is deservedly distinguished. Even that succession of eminent moral philosophers with which the University of Glasgow has been honoured, have not rendered it a better school for the Science of the Human Mind, than Edinburgh. The eloquent *Essay on Civil Society*, of Dr FERGUSON is known and admired

mired through Europe; with equal eloquence of compoſition, with an elocution which did it adequate juſtice, and with a clearneſs and preciſion which enlightened the obſcurity, and ſeemed to fix the ſubtlety of the moſt abſtract moral truths, did he teach the Science of Ethics in all its branches, when I had the honour of ſtudying under him. His Lectures have been lately publiſhed: and I cannot doubt but all ſtudents of Moral Philoſophy muſt be wiſe enough to read them. Fortunately for the Univ rſity, he has been ſucceeded, in the *Ethical Chair*, by Mr STEWART, whoſe eloquence, dignified, pathetic, winning, ſoothing, animating, irreſiſtibly intereſting, continues to allure our Youth to the ſt dy of Morals;—whatever the profeſſion to whi h they are deſtined,—or al hough they be deſtined to no profeſſion at all. Since no Science hath a more direct influence on th conduct of life than Ethics; every one muſt rejoice with me that this Science has ſo long been, and is long likely to be eagerly ſtudied in the Univerſity of Edinburgh.—Mr *Bruce* had the boldneſs to ſet the example t· almoſt all other Teachers of the *Science of Reaſoning*, in rejecting the *Dialectics* of Ariſtotle, and the quibbling *Logic* and *Me aphyſics* of the *Schoolmen*, f r the *Laws of Experimental Philoſophy* eſtabliſhed by *Bacon*, and happily obeyed by *Newton*, and by moſt of our Natural Philoſophers, and not leſs fitted to be ſuc-

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ceſsfully applied to the Philoſophy of the mind. Before he could improve his plan to all that perfection, and reduce it to that order, of which it was ſufficiently ſuſceptible, and which he was well qualified to give it; —he was ſucceeded by Mr FINLAYSON, whoſe Lectures do full juſtice to the importance of the Science as a branch of Liberal Education, and to the extraordinary and increaſing numbers of Students, that crowd his Claſs-Room.---*Mathematics* have long been taught, with the moſt diſtinguiſhed ability in this Univerſity. The works and the fame of *Maclaurin*, the friend of Sir Iſaac Newton, will long ſurvive: The moſt eminent Mathematicians on the Continent have confeſſed the eminence of Dr *Mathew Stewart*, in the difficult reſearches of this Science; None of the valuable papers in the volumes of the Philoſophical Tranſactions of Edinburgh, have been oftener quoted, or with higher applauſe than that fine ſpecimen of mathematical reaſoning applied to Phyſics, which Mr PLAYFAIR has exhibited in his Paper on the *Meaſurement of Heights and Diſtances by the Barometer*, or that ſkilful mixture of Mathematics and Fine Writing which he has diſplayed in his Eſſay on the *Indian Aſtronomy;* A ſcience, in which his genius can make important diſcoveries, and in which his accuracy enables him to confirm the diſcoveries, or to explode the fallacious theories of others, ſeems to be no leſs indebted to him for his ſucceſsful efforts

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as a Teacher, to render it more popular than it has yet been among our Scottiſh youth: Indeed, I am ſorry to think that I ſhould have reaſon for believing the Science of Mathematics to have been hitherto leſs popular than its very high importance deſerves, among the Countrymen of the Great NAPIER. I am perſuaded that *Mr Playfair* will be no leſs pleaſed than I am, to hope that the objections which ſeem to ariſe from the Hiſtory of Indian Aſtronomy,---againſt the Chronology of the Sacred Scriptures, may be removed by the erudition and ſcientific penetration of *Mr Maurice*.---I know not that any Profeſſor of *Rhetoric and Criticiſm* ever contributed more to the Reformation of Taſte in a Nation than DR BLAIR has done. At the time when he began to read his Lectures, Taſte in Compoſition was confined almoſt excluſively to thoſe very few among us who deſerved the appellation of Claſſical Scholars: We knew in general little of Regularity, and ſtill leſs of Delicacy of Compoſition; All the Writings of Scotchmen reſiding in Scotland, ---except perhaps half a dozen, or hardly ſo many, ---were, properly ſpeaking, written in the Scottiſh dialect; We admired the beſt Engliſh authors, we ſometimes tried to imitate, but we dared not to emulate them. But, under him has a School of Taſte and Eloquence been formed, which has diffuſed a ſkill in elegant compoſition and Taſte to re-

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liſh it, through all Scotland. His Sermons have wonderfully aided the influence of his Lectures. It could not but give great additional weight to the inſtructions of a Teacher of Eloquence, when it was conſidered, that he himſelf was confeſſedly the Firſt Compoſer for the Pulpit in Europe. Nor can I help obſerving, that, however high the praiſe of reforming the taſte of a whole People, and teaching them to inveſt truth in thoſe unaffected, yet elegant and graceful ornaments which beſt become her; Yet, much higher is the praiſe, and a much ſweeter ſecret ſatisfaction muſt the Conſciouſneſs give,--of having taught wiſdom to the thoughtleſs, and uſeful ſerioufneſs to the Gay,--of having reinforced, with more pointed arrows, the quiver from which the bow of Truth is armed againſt vice,--of arraying religion in a bewitching dreſs, which while it becomes the gravity and the ſimplicity of her character, renders her at the ſame time, the admiration and the delight of the Faſhionable circle,--in ſhort of rendering religious truth more perſuaſive, of making piety more amiable, and of "bringing many to righteouſneſs!" In Mr GREENFIELD, *Dr Blair* has fortunately obtained an aſſiſtant of Taſte and Genius congenial to his own.—But, the Univerſity of Edinburgh has juſt loſt one of its moſt illuſtrious ornaments, and Europe, one of its moſt ſplendid Literary Lights. The fame of its Principal has long contributed highly

ly to attract ſtudents to the Univerſity of Edinburgh. It was, with reaſon, believed abroad, that the ſeminary of Education, in which the Hiſtorian of Mary, of Charles V. of Columbus preſided, could not be a mean one. Unity of deſign; order and proportion of parts; the ſkilful preſervation of hiſtoric dignity; intereſting animation of narrative; juſtneſs, liberality, pertinency of the philoſophy neceſſarily intermingled; the judicious ſelection of the private tranſactions beſt adapted to illuſtrate the progreſs of policy, arts, and manners; ſkill in working all up together; a noble ſpirit breathed through the whole; and colouring rich, yet not gaudy, diffuſed over it;—Theſe are the diſtinguiſhing characteriſtics of the late DR ROBERTSON'S Hiſtorical Works; and they are at the ſame time the qualities which give to Hiſtory, almoſt all the perfection of which it is ſuſceptible. Some other Hiſtorians may excel in one or two of theſe qualities; and ſome may exhibit the whole aſſemblage in an inferior degree; but I will venture to aſſert, with confidence, that no Hiſtorian, ancient or modern, has ever yet diſplayed them all together in ſuch perfection. But, there is one quality of hiſtory yet more important than any of theſe; TRUTH. This quality, the hiſtorian can by no other means communicate to his work, than by an honeſt and diſcerning care, to relate no fact, unleſs upon the moſt ſatisfactory evidence.

And in a careful attention to *original authorities*, and a diſcerning *preference* among theſe, as different circumſtances appear to render them *more or leſs worthy of credit*. Dr Robertſon has undeniably left all other hiſtorians far behind. His ſtyle is elaborate, yet unaffected; dignified, but not turgid; energetic, without obſcurity or ſtiffneſs. Hardly can the philoſophy or Literature of modern times boaſt of another character in which *Liberality of Sentiment free from bigotry or dogmatiſm, is ſo eminently united with ſteadineſs of principles remote from levity or ſcepticiſm.* It was natural then, that the luſtre of *Dr Robertſon's* character ſhould advantageouſly be reflected upon his Univerſity. His name will long be one of its deareſt ornaments.---Only within theſe few years has Edinburgh begun to be diſtinguiſhed by poſſeſſing in its Univerſity, an excellent ſchool for thoſe branches of Learning which are more peculiarly connected with the profeſſion of Law. But, the abilities of a *Tytler*, a *Hume*, a *Wilde*, a *Macconnochie* have now begun to raiſe this Univerſity to the ſame illuſtrious eminence in the *Legal* as in the *Medical* ſtudies. The mild piety of a HUNTER, the philoſophic erudition of a HARDY, the eloquence and various knowledge of both are earneſtly employed to inſtruct the minds, and form the manners of thoſe young men who prepare to offer themſelves candidates for the miniſtry of religion.---The winning manners, the patient aſ-

ſiduity

ſiduity, the gentleneſs ſuperior to provocation, the ſingular erudition, and the amiable enthuſiaſm for a language, a philoſophy, and a literature formed above all others, to excite the enthuſiaſm of an ingenuous mind; Theſe qualities, ſo well known to diſtinguiſh MR DALZIELL's character render him wonderfully ſucceſsful in reſtoring in our own country, a taſte for Grecian learning: His pupils commonly catch a portion of his own enthuſiaſm for the Greek; and ſeldom diſcontinue their attendance at his Claſs till obliged by the œconomy of their other ſtudies. Nor is *Roman Literature* leſs advantageouſly intruſted to the care of DR HILL. The abilities and exertions of the Profeſſors of *Natural Philoſophy* and *Natural Hiſtory* are highly worthy of the Sciences which they teach. The munificence of *Mr Pulteney* has lately provided a ſalary for a Profeſſor of Agriculture in this Univerſity; and he has happily found in Dr COVENTRY, a profeſſor qualified to do honour to his Foundation.---It appears ſomewhat ſurprizing, that in a Commercial Age, and eſpecially among a Nation, the foundations of whoſe ſtrength and happineſs are eſtabliſhed upon their Manufactures and Commerce, no leſs than upon their agriculture; there ſhould be no particular inſtitution for the inſtruction of Youth in the Elements of *Commerce*. Forming but a ſlender part among the numberleſs modifications of Human Exertion; its *riſe and pro-*

greſs cannot be very particularly detailed in a courſe of General Hiſtory. For the ſame reaſon, its *relations* can never be very fully explained in a ſeries of Lectures on the principles of Political Œconomy. The Arithmetician and the Accountant teach but a very ſmall part of the actual practice of Trade, and that but very imperfectly. But, if when detached from each other, the ſeveral parts of Commercial Knowledge may make but an inconſiderable figure; if they cannot be ſeparately taught, in their full extent, among the other branches of Knowledge; Taken all together, however, they appear to be of great magnitude and importance; And they might be very beautifully connected into a diſtinct ſyſtem of Study. In ſuch a ſyſtem, the HISTORY; the PHILOSOPHY; and the ŒCONOMY of Commerce might be ſucceſſively explained.——By the *Philoſophy of Commerce* I mean the inveſtigation of its relations to climate, laws, manners, internal induſtry, religion, national virtue, power of defence, national revenue, local ſituation, &c. By its œconomy, I underſtand all its tranſactions, from gifts in the expectation of gifts, and the barter of commodities among ſavage tribes,——to the moſt complex negociations of the moſt ingenious trading nations in Europe;---comprehending all the details of retail-trade, of banking, of Inſurance, of Exchange, of Stock-Jobbing, &c.---Surely ſuch an

inſtitution

inſtitution for thus improving and extending Commercial Knowledge were worthy of the Legiſlature and Government of a great Trading Nation;—— Of the patronage of merchants and manufacturers in a country where they form ſo very opulent and ſo very reſpectable an order in the community, ---and are ſo much diſtinguiſhed by liberality of ſentiments and of manners;---and of an Univerſity, the moſt deſervedly celebrated in Europe, and which ſeems to want only this additional inſtitution, to render its proviſions for literary and ſcientific inſtruction moſt admirably compleat!

The patrons of the Univerſity of Edinburgh deſerve very high praiſe for that judicious care with which they have long laboured to promote its riſing celebrity, and make it beneficial to the City and to the Nation. To their attention, next after the *natural* progreſs of Knowledge and Opulence,---and the *accidental* appearance here, of ſome of the greateſt Literary Characters that any Age or Country has produced,---are the advancement and the fame of of this Univerſity to be aſcribed. The Profeſſorſhips are happily no inviting ſtalls for the indolent and the dull. And the Patrons, ſenſible of what importance the Univerſity is to the city, have been careful to ſuffer candidates to be introduced into its offices, by no recommendations, but thoſe of Science,

Abilities,

Abilities, and becoming Gravity of Manners. This care implies a degree of Public Virtue far from common in the preſent age; but the fact is not, for this, the leſs certain. Upon this care does the Proſperity and Uſefulneſs of the Univerſity eſſentially depend. Whenever it ſhall ceaſe to be exerted,---from that moment muſt the Univerſity be gradually deſerted, till nothing ſhall remain, but the mere *nominis umbra*. The importance of the Univerſity in a commercial point of view to the Citizens of Edinburgh, will appear from theſe facts: The number of the annual ſtudents has for many years been not under a thouſand,---reckoning at an average; Theſe again, one with one another, ſpend not leſs than thirty pounds each for every Seſſion: Here is a ſum of thirty thouſand pounds expended in Edinburgh, as a ſeat of an Univerſity, for the ſpace of ſeven or eight months in every year: The manner in which this money is laid out, is highly beneficial; It is for the greater part diſtributed in ſmall ſums among the induſtrious poor, who perform the neceſſary ſervices for the ſtudents, and provide them with the means of ſubſiſtence.

Since the Univerſity is ſo beneficial in a commercial point of view; ſince it reflects ſo much glory upon Scotland and its capital; and ſince architectural improvements have been, of late, ſo earneſtly and

and ſucceſsfully cultivated in Edinburgh; it was natural, that the Patrons of the Univerſity, and the Adminiſtrators of the Public Affairs of the City ſhould deſire to accommodate Science and Literature with manſions more worthy of them, than thoſe which they had here originally occupied. The Old Buildings of the Univerſity were not unſuitable to the modes of living, in the Country at the time, when they were erected, and certainly did honour to the Taſte and munificence of the Citizens of Edinburgh in the days of James VI. But, our modes of life have been ſo much varied, ſince that period; our Architecture has been ſo much improved; our taſte for domeſtic accommodation has become ſo much more nice; and the Foundations of the Univerſity have been ſo greatly enlarged; that the neceſſity of new Ediſices for the Public purpoſes of this Univerſity had become ſufficiently apparent. An opportunity ſeemed to ariſe, through which Edinburgh might be diſtinguiſhed by the architecture no leſs than by the Science of Athens. One noble public building, the REGISTER-OFFICE had been juſt finiſhed. And, the patriotiſm of Scotchmen could not bear, that their private houſes ſhould be palaces hardly equalled in Europe; their temples of Taſte and Science, comparatively mean and Smoky huts. The deſign of a NEW COLLEGE was therefore formed. A plan for the building

building was procured from Mr Adams. A ſubſcription was opened. It has drawn many generous contributions from various quarters. It has been honoured with the munificent encouragement of a Sovereign who has ever been the generous and diſcerning patron of Learning and of the Fine Arts. From the Eaſt and from the Weſt Indies, the Pupils of the Univerſity of Edinburgh have emulouſly ſent contributions to promote the accommodation and the auguſt dignity of their *Alma Mater*. But, ſo conſiderable a Work, which muſt prove a permanent monument to the honour of the age, of the country, of the city in which it is reared, cannot be compleated, without a fund much more conſiderable, than has yet been acquired for it. A mean or paltry ſet of buildings would have been leſs worthy of the Eſtabliſhment of the Univerſity; than the old Edifices which had a venerable and dignified air by their antiquity. But the patriotiſm and the Taſte of Scotchmen, and indeed the veneration of the ſeat of Learning and Science will not leave this noble fabric long unfiniſhed. And, if, amidſt the viciſſitudes of Human Things, barbariſm ſhould ever again ſpread ruin and deſolation through thoſe regions; levelling our palaces and public buildings with the temples and porticoes of *Athens* and *Palmyra*, or with our own old Abbies and Cathedrals; Then ſhall the enthuſiaſtic votary of Taſte

and

and Science repair hither in devout pilgrimage, from the Wilds of Siberia perhaps, or from the remoteſt corners of North America, and weep over the broken columns, and kneel to kiſs the threſholds of the diſmantled and deſolated temple which the Citizens of Edinburgh now fondly rear to Learning*.

THE GRAMMAR-School of Edinburgh, under the management of four maſters and a Rector, is not leſs flouriſhing than the Univerſity. I have formerly mentioned my objections againſt the form of the Exerciſes commonly preſcribed in the courſe of a Claſſical Education, and againſt the ſhortneſs of the period commonly appropriated in Scotland, to the ſtudy of Claſſical Learning. But, if I were even more confident than I am of being right in my opinions on theſe matters; and more earneſt than I dare preſume to be, in the cenſure of the practices of which I diſapprove;—I ſhould ſtill allow, that theſe reſpectable men are well entitled to adopt the words of Hector;

Si Pergama dextra
Defendi poſſent, etiam hac defenſa fuiſſent.

* See a Letter of Abbe *de Lille's*, in *Choiſeul-Gouffier's* VOYAGE PITTORESQUE DE LA GRECE.

The ſchools for Engliſh are numerous, and taught by men well qualified for the employment. In the ſame ſituation are the ſchools for writing and arithmetic, and other concomitant branches of Education. We have ſwarms of Frenchmen who are ſufficiently aſſiduous to initiate our Youth in the Language of Politeneſs and of Liberty.

But, I muſt again obſerve, that inſtruction in the Principles of Religion enters too little into the plans of almoſt all theſe proviſions for Education. Unleſs in ſome of the Engliſh ſchools, religious inſtruction is never thought of. The parents truſt it to the maſters; and the maſters to the parents; and between the two, the children eſcape the trouble of thinking about, who made them or who redeemed them. We ſeem to be afraid of inſtilling religious prejudices into the minds of youth, before they grow up to chuſe a religion for themſelves. But, I ſhould think, the religious knowledge of our youth ought to be anxiouſly cared for, both at our ſchools, and in the firſt claſſes in the Univerſity. I would willingly hope, that what I have here ſaid, is not true in all its extent. But, I have not reaſon to think that it is not. And, as the matter appears to me to be of the utmoſt importance, I have choſen to ſpeak out. But, I ſhall rejoice to be corrected.

V.

V. ALL the other circumſtances which concur to maintain this city, or to form and mark the character of its inhabitants may be included, in ſo rapid a ſketch as this, under the common Head of MANNERS. The influence of *Religion* has always a powerful ſhare in forming the manners of a People. In great towns the influence of Religion is almoſt always weaker than elſewhere. Yet, whatever the miniſtry of a pious and enlightened Clergy can do to maintain the influence of religion, is here exerted; and not without ſucceſs; for the decencies of religion are yet reverenced here by all claſſes; and I would willingly hope, that its ſecret incitements and reſtraints are powerfully felt by many. A ſtrict *Police* preſerves Edinburgh more ſecure from riots and robberies than almoſt any other city equally large. As the Opulent and the Educated are more numerous here, in proportion to the poor and the uninſtructed, than in almoſt any other town in Scotland; the labouring poor and the ignorant ſeem to take from them, the tone of their manners. The *public amuſements* in Edinburgh are not yet too numerous, or too ſeductive to operate with a very corrupting influence on the manners. The *Theatre* is occaſionally crowded, but is regularly attended with eagerneſs. *Pantomime* and *tricks of horſemanſhip* have unſucceſsfully tried their fortune here, as public amuſements.—Perſuaded as I am that all the Dramatic

entertainments of modern times have been pernicious to the morals of thoſe among whom they have prevailed; Yet, at the ſame time, ſatisfied that ſuch entertainments are beneficial to the progreſs of refinement, and to the improvement of the Siſter Fine Arts,—nay are even indiſpenſibly neceſſary among a People arrived at that pitch of luxurious refinement at which we and the Nations of Europe have attained; I anxiouſly wiſh, that ſome means could be deviſed by which the Theatre might be rendered truly a School of Virtue. When the Tragedies of Eſchylus, Sophocles, and Euripides were repreſented on the Athenian ſtage; Virtue was taught on it little leſs correctly, and perhaps more ſucceſsfully than from our pulpits. The cauſes ſeem to have been, 1ſt That the *repreſentations* were *occaſional* not continual; 2dly They were *great national acts;* 3dly The *merits*, and eſpecially the *moral effects* of the pieces to be acted, were previouſly eſtimated with care, by judges appointed by the ſtate; 4thly The Actors were *few*, and there were no *Actreſſes* intermingled with them; 5thly *Virtuous Morals* were required as a ſort of Profeſſional Qualification in them; And 6thly, Becauſe they were among the moſt reſpectable characters in the republic. Now the circumſtances of Edinburgh differ ſo much from thoſe of Athens, that I can have no hopes of ſeeing our ſtage corrected by the ſame reſtraints or dignified by the

ſame

ſame advantages. But, if our Legiſlature ſhall ever find time to make the virtue of the Nation more particularly an object of their care than they have lately made it; I conceive it to be poſſible enough to place the ſtage under ſuch regulations, that it ſhall be, at leaſt leſs the pander of vice and profligacy, than at preſent. In the mean time, it is aſtoniſhing to me, that the citizens of Edinburgh do not uſe means to have their Dramatic Entertainments regulated in the ſame manner as their muſical. The patent might be to the Town-Council, and to two or three of the moſt reſpectable Incorporated Bodies. Theſe might annually appoint *Directors of the Theatre;* The Directors might hire for annual ſalaries, a depute manager, and a Company of Players: Decent Morals ſhould be required in the Actor and Actreſs not leſs than in the Divine, the Lawyer, and the Phyſician. The Directors might meet weekly, to ſelect the pieces to be acted for the week ſubſequent: and the moral tendency of theſe pieces ought to be always the firſt conſideration: and the Deputy-manager ſhould be required to exclude from the theatre the drunken and the diſorderly, and to inſtitute an immediate proſecution againſt the riotous: The Directors ſhould be men, the moſt diſtinguiſhed for rank, for piety, for virtue, for ſound judgment, for good taſte, in the whole city. But, it is in vain to talk thus.

Take

Take away the licentiouſneſs; and too many would think the entertainment alſo taken away. *Sic vivitur Romæ!*—As to the *muſical entertainments* of Edinburgh; I do not ſee how a *Concert* could be managed on a better plan; It is ſupported by a ſubſcription of the moſt reſpectable lovers of muſic in Edinburgh: The performers are retained at ſtated ſalaries: Directors appointed by the ſubſcribers, hire or diſmiſs the performers, regulate the muſic, and manage the money and the accompts of the ſubſcription: They grant alſo, at their pleaſure, and upon proper application, tickets of admiſſion to ſuch gentlemen and ladies,—ſtrangers or others, as may not have it in their power to be ſubſcribers. The performers are alſo gratified with benefit-concerts. Through theſe means theſe amuſements are conducted with great decorum, and with happy effects. The company at the ordinary concerts, is at once ſelect and varied. By the benefit-concerts, the muſical taſte of the whole town is gratified. *Dancing-Aſſemblies* are held regularly through the winter, in two elegant *ſuites* of rooms in George's Street, and in George's Square. Thoſe of George's Square are the moſt ſelect, and at the ſame time the beſt attended. *Private dances* in Taverns have certainly become much too faſhionable among all ranks. They ſhould be diſcouraged by thoſe who have influence to regulate the public taſte in theſe matters. Between

December

December and *April*, Edinburgh is crowded with the ſtudious, the buſy, and the gay. In *July* again, the *Races of Leith* render Edinburgh for a week or ten days, a ſcene of feſtivity and pleaſure.

EDINBURGH has been filled for a few months about the end of the laſt year, and the beginning of the preſent, with the noiſe of thoſe who called themſelves, FRIENDS OF THE PEOPLE. But, it was *VOX, ET PRÆTEREA NIHIL.* Wherever two or three ſimple People could be brought together by the turbulent, they were named an *Aſſociation;* and Declarations framed for them, and publiſhed in their names; as if they had been multitudes of thoſe whoſe virtue, intelligence and property gave them the higheſt intereſt in the welfare of their country. No ſooner was the eye of the Public fairly opened upon them than they vaniſhed like ſo many ſhadows.

THESE are all the material Obſervations concerning the preſent ſtate of Scotland, with which I can at this time, preſume to trouble the Public. I may have been often miſtaken. But, I have not wilfully miſrepreſented any facts: and I uſed pains to obtain correct information. I have anxiouſly avoided ſetting down any thing that might give offence. But, as in a work of this nature, it is hardly poſſible, that nobody

nobody ſhould be offended by ſome or other of the facts related: I think it neceſſary to mention, that if I have ſet down any thing, however true, that may ſeem to give reaſonable offence, I am ready to make every proper apology; ſtill more,—if I have any where undeſignedly made a miſrepreſentation, to wound any perſon's feelings: I ſhall readily aſk pardon of the offended party, and adopt any means that may be ſuggeſted to correct my fault. I have no enmities to gratify. I have no deſire to provoke enmity. Why then ſhould I give offence?——

I HAVE alſo to offer an apology to thoſe whom I may perhaps have diſguſted by my impertinent praiſe; I am far from being diſpoſed to ſet myſelf up for any body's panegyriſt. But, as it was my intention to exhibit a ſort of general ſketch, in theſe obſervations,—of the ſtate of ſociety,—of induſtry, arts, and manners in my country; I could not well do this, without connecting with my account, the names of ſome of thoſe reſpectable men who do the greateſt honour to our country by their abilities and their virtues. On this ſcore, therefore, I hope to be forgiven for preſuming to mention the names of men who may well diſdain praiſe ſo mean and awkward as mine.

It has been my wish to drop nothing but what, —if noticed at all,—might tend to promote the welfare of my Country, and the intereſt of Knowledge, of Virtue, of pure Religion. Even in this too I may have failed. If I have unfortunately ſet down any thing having a contrary tendency; I pray God to forgive; and intreat the reader to impute it not to ill intention, but to ignorance or overſight.

FINIS.

ADVERTISEMENT.

AS this volume has swelled, to what my Publishers think, an unreasonable size; I am obliged to refer the reader to Sir Robert Douglas's Account of the MACGREGORS, *for a vindication of that Clan from some of the aspersions which, in consequence of their misfortunes, have been thrown upon them,—instead of examining their history in an Appendix, as proposed.*

THE Table of Imports and Exports of Perth, intended to be inserted here, is also ommitted, as a committee of merchants, manufacturers, &c. are now employed in making up this Table with the utmost possible accuracy. It will be published in Sir John Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland, and a copy of it delivered GRATIS *to the purchasers of this Work.*